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SIXPENCE.
WITH SUPPLEMENT, GRATIS.

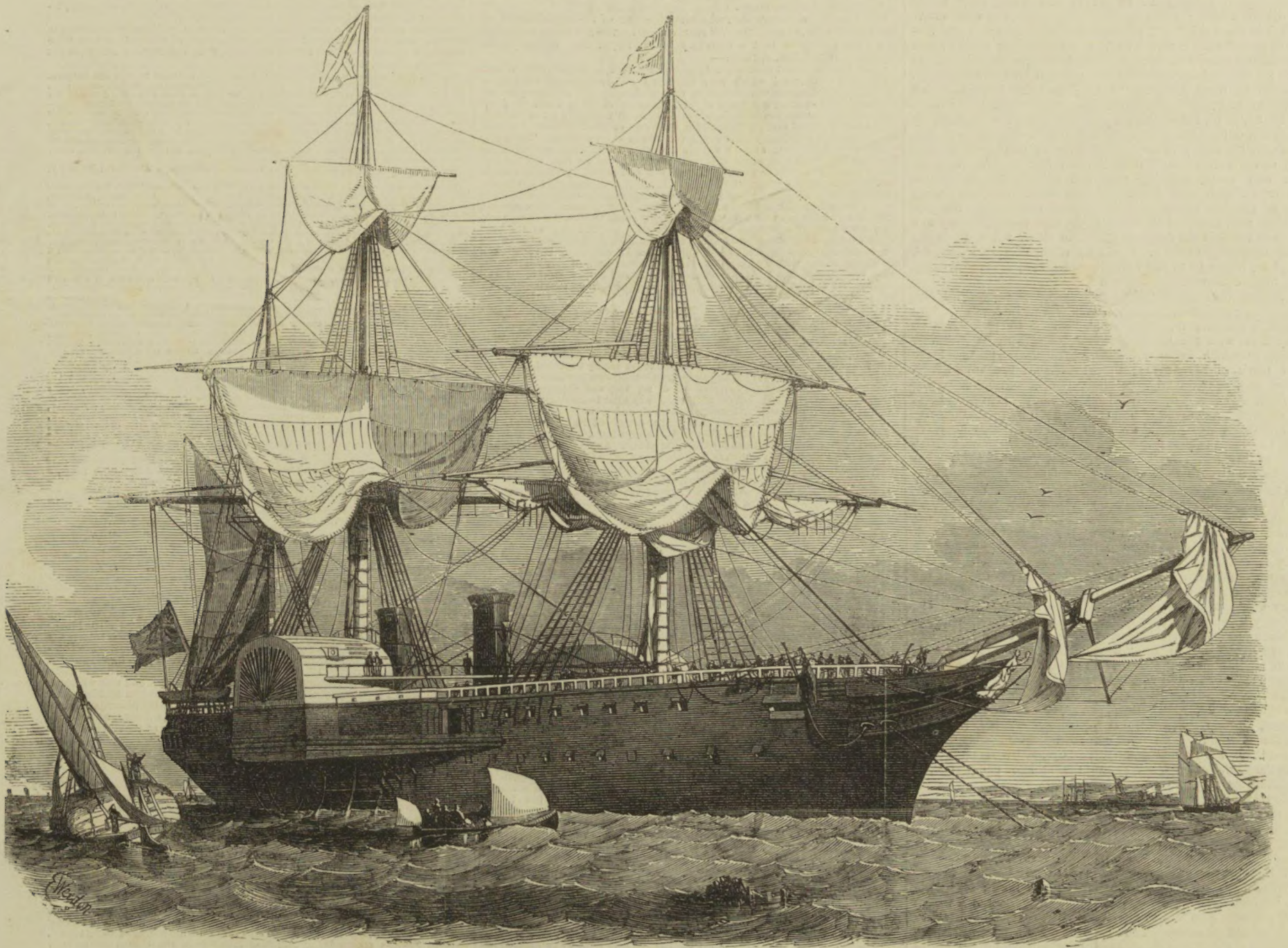
THE ENGINEERS AND THEIR EMPLOYERS.

ONE of the most serious disputes that has ever occurred between a body of influential employers and a vast number of skilled and unskilled operatives rages at this moment. The quarrel threatens, unless speedily brought to a termination, to inflict the most deadly injury upon the trade of the country, and upon the future condition of the labouring men who are parties to it. These men not only rank among the most numerous but among the most intelligent and important of the working classes. The very name of British industry suggests to foreign nations the particular business in which they are engaged, and, more than any other branch of our multifarious manufac-

tures, it calls to mind the real sources of the wealth and power of Great Britain. We have invented, we have manufactured, and we have perfected machinery for the whole civilised world. We have assumed and we have maintained a leading position as the fabricators of the highest, most complicated, and most powerful descriptions of machinery; and, if other nations have taken lessons from us, and have imitated our example, they as yet follow in our wake at a long and respectful distance. This position we owe not alone to the pith and sinew of our working men, valuable as these are, but to the philosophic mind of the nation, the far-seeing enterprise and indomitable energy of the great employers of labour, and the all but inexhaustible resources of British capital. That these high advantages and this pre-emi-

nence should be imperilled by a dispute between employers and employed, is deplorable; but that they should be lost, would be disastrous, if not fatal, to many other great interests besides those more immediately implicated.

Many disputes have, in former times, taken place between capital and labour, from an erroneous notion prevalent among working men, that capital is their foe and not their friend, and that the great and only fund out of which it is possible that labour should be paid is a fund which the labourer should detest, or, at all events, be especially jealous of. Every dispute of the kind has ultimately turned to the disadvantage of the working classes, to the diminution of their wages by the introduction of competitors, in the shape either of improved machinery or of



THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM-PACKET COMPANY'S SHIP "AMAZON," BURNT ON SUNDAY LAST, ON HER FIRST OUTWARD VOYAGE TO THE WEST INDIES.

In the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for July 5, 1851, appeared an illustration of the launch of the steamer *Amazon*, at Blackwall, on Saturday, June 28. The vessel is there described as "the largest timber-built steam-ship ever constructed in England," and as one of a fleet of new vessels about to be placed by the Royal Mail Steam-packet Company on the West India service; the steamers at present employed on that station being found not sufficiently powerful to maintain that degree of speed and regularity which is required by the increased demand for more rapid communication with our West Indian colonies. The whole period occupied in her construction (continues the account) has been little more than nine months; and in about a year from the time that her keel was laid down this noble vessel will have been fully completed, and ready to proceed on her first voyage. The launch was an interesting scene: the shipwrights' hammers struck away the supports—the naming was duly performed—and the majestic vessel glided gracefully into the waters.

The *Amazon*, of 3000 tons burthen, was built by Messrs. R. and H.

Green, of Blackwall; with engines of 800-horse power, by Messrs. Seaward and Capel, of Millwall, Poplar. On her first trial trip from Blackwall, she was started with such ease that her departure was not perceptible to those between decks at the time; and as she proceeded down the river her powerful engines worked with great perfection, and were the admiration of all on board. The diameter of the cylinders was 96 inches each, and the stroke 9 feet, and the engines made 14 revolutions of the large paddle-wheels (40 feet 8 inches in diameter) per minute, and a speed by the log of 11 knots per hour. The *Amazon* drew 19 feet forward and 19 feet 9 in. aft, which rendered it difficult to navigate her over Barking Bar, and she was brought to anchor below Gravesend for the night. On Dec. 16 she arrived from the Thames in the Southampton tidal dock, and was declared the finest ship that had ever appeared in those waters, which was proved by her subsequent performances.

The vessel was surveyed, and considered capable of carrying fourteen 22-pounders, and two 10-inch pivot guns of 85 cwt. each, on her

main-deck; her coal-boxes were constructed to carry 1000 tons of coal, or upwards of 16½ days' consumption, at the rate of 2½ tons per hour for her 26 furnaces. She was fitted up with Captain Sir Snow Harris's lightning-conductors, and in case of need could accommodate 360 troops below, allowing each man 12 superficial feet: her engines were fitted in a framework independent of the vessel, and no perceptible vibration was felt when standing on deck over them. The length of the vessel was 310 feet, with a breadth of beam of 42 feet, and 72 feet over the paddle-boxes. The interior was fitted in a very elegant style, and the cost of the vessel is stated at upwards of £100,000.

On Friday afternoon last, the 2d inst., the *Amazon*, Captain Symons, took her departure from Southampton, with the usual mails for the British and foreign West Indies (except Havannah and Honduras), the Gulf of Mexico, Spanish Main, &c., in charge of Lieutenant Brady, R.N., Admiralty agent. She took out fifty passengers, a large and valuable cargo, specie value £20,300 sterling, and 500 bottles of quick-silver, value £5150 sterling, for mining operations in Mexico. The value

women and children, and to the permanent deterioration of their condition. With the hope that such a consummation may be avoided in the present case, and that the most important trade of the country may not be forced to seek a habitation elsewhere by a course of proceeding alike injurious to the welfare of the men who make, and to that of the masters who resist them, we would earnestly draw the attention of the most intelligent of the operatives to the real state of the dispute, and to the attempted injustice which lies at the bottom of it.

The demands of the operative engineers, as put forth on the authority of a body calling itself the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, are or were three, we say were, because the last of the three has been disavowed; but whether on authority or not, will appear hereafter.

The first demand is for the cessation of overtime, except in cases of inevitable accident or break-down. That any body of working men should insist upon the exercise of such tyranny, appears too monstrous. If a despotic master should force a man to work beyond his strength, on the penalty of dismissal from his employment, he would most undoubtedly be guilty of a cruel and unjustifiable act. But happily the despotism would be as impolitic as it is unnecessary. There are always men who are willing to work overtime for extra pay; men who prefer the honest earnings of an additional hour's labour to the squandering of that hour in the gin-palace, the beer-shop, or the skittle-ground, and who ask no greater boon than remunerative employment. If no tyranny be exercised by the working men themselves in preventing such labour, employers will never be at a loss to procure willing and grateful hands for all the extra work they may require. It is well known that in this particular business, as in many others, a sudden demand will arise, which must be met, or the market will be lost. If the employer be prevented by the employed from taking advantage of these chances and prizes of his business, the opportunity of trade is thrown away. We would put it to the working men themselves to answer the question—who suffers most by a stagnation of trade, the employer or the employed? In all trades there are unfortunately a number of idle and dissolute men who dislike work—men who, if they can earn sufficient in three or four days to keep them for six, will only work three or four days, and pass the remainder in drinking and dissipation. When the revolution of 1848 occurred, there was so great a demand for guns for the Continent, that the manufacturers of Birmingham were unable to execute them with sufficient promptitude. Every available hand was employed, and wages in a short time doubled themselves. And what was the consequence? To use the language of an operative, as we find it recorded in one of the letters on "Labour and the Poor" published in the *Morning Chronicle* in the course of last year, "The gun-stockers grew saucy, and would not work at hard stocks, which required extra labour. They would pick and choose. Sometimes, after gaining £3 or £4 in one week, they would 'play' the week after; and very often they would not work above three days in the week." The result was that many of the Birmingham manufacturers were unable to execute their orders; that the gun-manufacturers of Belgium and France, where the workmen had no such habits, and were too grateful for extra work and extra wages to think of being "saucy," got the business which Birmingham lost; and the same man who could easily have earned 2s. 6d. or 3s. for stocking a gun, saw the price reduced by the operation of the natural and inevitable laws of trade to 1s. 2d., and was only too happy to accept that price to save himself from beggary or the workhouse. We hold, therefore, and we think all sensible and sober working men will agree with us, that as employers, for their own sakes, will not work overtime, except in cases of absolute necessity, it is suicidal conduct on the part of working men to refuse their assistance, and most arbitrary and unjust both towards the employers and to those fellow-labourers who may be willing to work. The only effect of such a demand, if agreed to, would be to pauperise the workmen, and to drive the trade to other countries.

The second claim is for the abolition of piece-work. This demand will, no doubt, be supported by the idle and the incompetent workman, for its effect would be to place him on the same level with the industrious and the skilful; to give him a reward, to which he is not entitled, at the expense of the superior merit of his fellows; to bring about the ruin of his employer, and, consequently, the diminution or extinction of the labour fund. That a body so intelligent as the operative engineers should raise such a demand is almost incredible; but, as it is clearly proved that they have made it, and insist upon it, the only inference that can be drawn is, that they are misguided by busy and knavish members of their own class, who are pleased with the importance which agitation gives to them, and who would rather spout and talk, and get up meetings, than do their fair work like honest men.

The third demand, as originally made, was, that the employers should discharge from their works all persons who were not members of the trades union, known by the name of the Amalgamated Society. This was too daring and too wicked to be openly persisted in; and it appears that some of the leaders of the agitation have disowned all connexion with it. If the masters could accede to such a proposition, and obey such a behest, they would seal the ruin of the trade and that of all the persons they employ. They might, perhaps, avoid their own ruin by the invention and perfection of machines to diminish human labour, or by the employment of women; but in this case the result to the men would be the same. The fate of the unfortunate journeymen tailors of London and Liverpool would be theirs; and engineers, instead of ranking among the best paid of working men, as they now do, would descend to the low level of a bare subsistence, and it would require the labour of a whole family to procure the food and clothing now earned by the unaided labour of one man. But it is unnecessary, perhaps, to dwell upon this point, as the disavowal of a few shows that at least one portion of the engineers are ashamed of, and abandon, it.

The formidable and extensive organisation of the employed in raising these demands has led to an equally formidable organisation of the employers in resisting them; and it has been announced, that, on this day (the 10th instant), unless a satisfactory arrangement shall have been previously made, all the engineering work of England shall simultaneously cease. The Amalgamated Society is said to have accumulated a very large fund; but, large as it is, it would not amount to a fortnight's, if even to a week's wages of the men who will be thrown out of work by this determination of the masters. Let the working men consider well what they are about. Let them not be misled by pretended friends who are their real foes. Let them study the laws of trade—which neither employers nor employed can control, much more set aside—and let them read the industrial history of their country. They will there find that no turnout or strike was ever of advantage to the working classes, but the very reverse, and that the warfare in which they have embarked against these men, whose interests are identical with their own, can lead to no other result than to loss and misery, to present bitterness of spirit, and to future degradation. It is, perhaps, fortunate that it should be so; for did not such tyranny, when temporarily enforced, carry the seeds of its own speedy discomfiture along with it, England would long ago have ceased to be a manufacturing country, and instead of being at the head would have been at the tail of civilisation—without trade, without wealth, without influence, and without power. We trust that the engineers will learn this truth before they have gone too far, and that this unhappy dispute may yet be arranged without mischief or prejudice to either party.

TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF THE "AMAZON" BY FIRE.— GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

(Continued from preceding page.)

of the specie, quicksilver, cargo, &c., when added to the value of the ship, gives a total amount of property of little less than £200,000 sterling. The departure of this noble ship on her first voyage had been scarcely announced, when the public mind was startled and horrorstricken with the fearful news—at first scarcely believed—of the total destruction by fire of this majestic "castle of the deep," and the loss of 115 out of the 161 souls who had left Southampton on board her, but a few hours before, full of life and hope, and with the cheerful expectation of accomplishing one of the quickest voyages to be recorded in the steam navigation of the Atlantic. It was anticipated, indeed, that she would make a run out to St. Thomas's of under fourteen days: the distance from Southampton to St. Thomas's is 3622 miles. She was the first of the new direct line of steam-ships intended to run fortnightly between Southampton and Chagres, touching at St. Thomas's, while several lines of branch packets, for the accommodation of the West India Islands, the Gulf of Mexico, &c., were to run from the island of St. Thomas to the various ports and islands embraced in the new scheme of the West India Mail-packet Company, and sanctioned by the Lords of the Admiralty. By means of the main trunk line, the course of which is a perfectly straight route from Southampton to Chagres, a great steam-ferry is, in point of fact, established between Europe and the Isthmus of Panama.

From the hurried and imperfect accounts of the catastrophe which have been given by the survivors, we learn the following main facts.

The *Amazon*, on clearing Southampton Water on Friday evening week, encountered in the Channel strong head winds and rain, and on two different occasions, prior to the discovery of the fire, she was obliged to be stopped in her course, on account of what is technically termed "hot bearings," in other words, the heating to redness of the axles, and other moving parts of the engines, by the excessive friction of the new machinery. The first stoppage was made on Friday night, off Portland Bill, between eight and twelve o'clock; the second about the same time on Saturday night, for about 2½ hours. At a quarter before one on Sunday morning, when the ship was about 110 miles west-south-west of Scilly, a fire was discovered by the watch to break out suddenly forward on the starboard side, between the steam-chest and under part of the galley, and shortly after the flames rushed up the gangway which is in front of the foremost funnel. The alarm-bell was rung, and Captain Symons rushed on deck in his shirt and trousers. Wet swabs and other loose things were placed on the gratings of the spar-deck hatch, and a hose was brought to play on the main-deck, but quickly abandoned in consequence of the excessive heat. The deck-pump was also kept at work until the men were forced to retire. The wind was blowing half a gale from south-west, and the vessel was going 8½ knots, which was her average rate from the time of departure. Capt. Symons ordered some hay between the engine-room crank gratings to be thrown overboard; two trusses were hoisted over the ship's side, but the fire soon ignited the main body, the hencoops on each side, and the paddle-boxes; the men were obliged to abandon the deck, and those who could were all finally driven from the ship. Many were burnt in their berths, others suffocated, and a great number were drowned in the lowering of the boats.

Mr. Vincent, a mere youth, who served as one of the 'midshipmen on board, and who is one of the few survivors, gives the following narrative, in a letter addressed to the secretary of the Royal Mail Steam-packet Company, dated Jan. 6, 1852:—

"The *Amazon* was at noon of the 3d of January, 1852, in latitude 49° 1' N., and longitude 4° 57' W., from which time she steered W. by S. till 9.30 p.m. of the same day, when she was stopped to cool the bearings. At 11.20 p.m. she proceeded, still steering the same course, steaming about 8½ knots per hour, wind and sea increasing from the windward. At 40 minutes a.m. on the 4th, smoke was observed coming through the hatchway on the fore-side of the foremost funnel. Immediately afterwards the flames burst through. The alarm was immediately given, and the captain and chief officer came on deck. The fire hose and buckets of water were brought to play on the fire, but that, together with the attempt to stop the engine, was ineffectual. The helm was put hard to starboard to put her before the wind, but it was some time before she paid off. The mail-boat, when lowered, was immediately swamped, with about twenty-five people in her, all of whom were lost. The pinnace, when lowered, sheered across the sea before the people in her could unhook the bow-tackle. They were thereby washed out, and the boat remained hanging by the bow. While clearing away the second cutter, a sea struck her, and raised her off the cranes and unhooked the bow-tackle. The fore-end immediately fell down, and the people in her, with the exception of two, who hung doubled over the thwart, were precipitated into the sea and drowned. Sixteen men (including two passengers) succeeded in clearing away and lowering the life-boat on the starboard side. They used every endeavour to save those in the water, but were swept past so rapidly that their exertions were without avail. At about the same time I (Mr. Vincent) with the chief steward, one passenger, and two seamen, got into and lowered the dingy, and were picked up by the life-boat about half an hour afterwards, when we immediately took the small boat in tow, and stood down for the ship; but the wind and sea increasing, and the dingy being upset, and ourselves being nearly swamped, we were obliged to let the small boat go, and keep the life-boat with her head to the sea. Whilst lying to, a barque passed astern of us, and was accordingly hailed, and did, I believe, answer, but did nothing of any kind to assist us, but stood down to leeward of the ship, hauled on a wind, and went away. There was now on our quarter a boat with five men in her (supposed to be the gig), but we could not, from the severity of the weather, render her any assistance. About half an hour afterwards we suddenly lost sight of her. About four a.m. it rained heavily, wind shifted to northward, decreasing sea, confused, and going down; put the boat about, and kept before it. At five the magazine exploded, and about half an hour afterwards the funnels went over the side, soon after which the ship went down bodily. At noon we were picked up by the *Marsden*, of London, stood in for the coast of France, and afterwards (wind shifting to the southward) for Falmouth, and lastly for Plymouth, at which place we arrived on Monday, eleven p.m.—48° 5' N. lat. when picked up; 5° 30' W. long., ditto—WILLIAM VINCENT."

The scene on deck is described as dreadful in the extreme. When the flames had approached the after companion, two male passengers came up from the saloon, all in flames, and, running aft, fell on the deck. A tall lady, supposed to be Mrs. MacLaren, entreated some one to take care of her child, but she would not enter either of the boats. Linefold, the quartermaster, placed one lady passenger in a boat, but she, being extremely agitated, got out again, and, although Henry Williams and another used some force and begged her to go in, she persisted in remaining on board. The stewardess, Mrs. Scott, with her bonnet and shawl on, and something in her hand, first asked Steer to put her in the dingy, and then left for a larger boat. At the time of leaving, some of those who yet lived were kneeling on the deck praying to God for mercy, while others, almost in a state of nudity, were running about screaming with horror.

The survivors escaped in the after starboard second life-boat, in which was Mr. Neil-on. One of her occupants (Maylin), in leaving, pressed his foot through the burning deck, and injured it; two others (Williams and Passmore) had to climb the star-board paddle-box through the flames and smoke. They succeeded after three attempts, and then slid down hands and face over the paddle-box into the boat; several went down by the tackles. Two of the watch below (Williams and Foster) had their hair burnt while coming on deck. When the life-boat left there were sixteen on board; they heard some one shouting in the water, and threw over a keg and some cans. They endeavoured to approach, but a sea carried the boat off. They then took Mr. Vincent, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Sisley, and two sailors from the dingy, and, making her fast to the stern, towed after the burning wreck, thinking to save more lives; but the dingy having filled, they were obliged to cut her adrift, and, fearing that they themselves should be swamped, their boat's head was put to face the sea. Twelve oars were at work, the wind was increasing, and heavy squalls coming on. They saw the ship's gig full of people, shouting as if for assistance, and at the same time descried a sail standing apparently to the southward. The vessel appeared to pass between the two boats, and after this the gig was not seen: whether she was swamped, or was taken up by the stranger, is unknown. The strange vessel came pretty close under the life-boat's stern, when all shouted together, and thought they were answered on board; she was a barque, under close-reefed topsails, foresails, and foremast staysail; her spanker was hanging in the brails, as if she was in the act of wearing. Soon after her helm was put up, and she bore right down towards the wreck, behind which she disappeared. The masts of the port and the mainmast before four o'clock in the morning, the foremast on the port and the mainmast on the starboard side. One poor fellow appeared at the jib-boom end; the jib was cut loose, and was blowing away. Her mizen-mast was still standing while she was in flames from stem to stern. About five o'clock, when the life boat was passing the ship in a leewardly direction, the gunpowder in her two magazines exploded, and in about twenty minutes, the mizen having gone by the board, she made a heavy lurch, and went down, her funnels being red hot and still standing.

Those in the boat now pulled before the sea and wind, thinking to make the French coast, which was, as they thought, the nearest. Mr. Vincent's monkey-jacket, being mounted on an oar, was their only sail, and the boat was kept dry by baling her with his boots. At half-past ten on Sunday morning they saw a brig, and, taking down the jacket, they hoisted handkerchiefs, fore and aft, for signals of distress; and at 12 o'clock, in lat. 48° 5' N., long. 5° 30' W., they boarded the *Marsden*, of London, Captain Evans; from Cardiff, with railway iron, for North Carolina. The brig took the boat in tow with a new 7-inch hawser; but, this having got chafed, it broke at 4 p.m. on Monday during half a gale of wind, and the boat was lost. On board the brig every humane attention was exhibited, and, after giving the shipwrecked crew as much clothing and comfort as could be produced, Captain Evans landed them safely at Plymouth, whence they were sent to their homes by the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society.

The boats of the *Amazon*, of which there were nine, four being life-boats, were fitted with iron cranes or crutches, on which their keels rested. These fittings obstructed their clearance from the ship, and but for this fatal arrangement the serious loss of life would have been lessened. Captain Symons ordered no one to get into the boats. This order was obeyed until the people saw the flames overpowering the ship. He was last seen with the man at the wheel, ordering the helm to be put up, so as to keep the ship before the wind. His last words were, "It is all over with her." The officer of the watch, Mr. Treweek (second officer), was walking the bridge when the accident was discovered. Mr. Henry Roberts, chief officer, in his shirt only, was actively assisting the captain. He was last seen going through the companion down to the main-deck, and is supposed to have perished there. Mr. Lewis (third officer), Mr. Goodridge (fourth officer), and the two midshipmen, some of whose berths were forward, on the port side of the main-deck, were probably suffocated, as were also the chief engineer, Mr. George Angus, and Mr. Allen, superintending engineer under Mr. Seward, as they were seen in the engine-room ten minutes before the fire broke out going forward, there being no possibility of their return through the flames. The second engineer, Mr. William Angus, was on the spar-deck, between the funnel and the crank gratings, pulling oars, and throwing them out of the way of the fire on the deck, near the boats. The two best boats were stowed on the top of the spinnakers, where the flames prevented approach. After the *Amazon* was put about she went at the rate of 12 or 13 knots dead before the wind.

The destruction of the *Amazon* following so quickly upon the stranding of the *Demerara* at Bristol will be seriously detrimental to the interests of the company, as two out of the five new ships are thus withdrawn, leaving only three, viz. the *Oronoco*, *Magdalene*, and *Parana*, with which to perform the direct mail service between Southampton and the Isthmus of Panama. Several of the old ships will now have to be retained on the main line till other vessels to replace the missing ships can be constructed; and in the meantime much inconvenience will be experienced by the disorganisation into which the general mail service will necessarily be thrown by the non-employment of steamers of sufficient power and speed with which to maintain the chain of communication between this country and the West Indies, Central America, the Gulf of Mexico, Pacific, &c. We have no doubt the directors will make every effort to remedy this state of things without delay; but considerable time will elapse before so great a blow can be recovered, and the traffic will necessarily suffer to some extent by the competition of the New York route, which is found to be more speedy for the transmission of mails, passengers, and treasure from the Pacific and some other points, than can be provided by the old West India packets, which are, when compared with other ocean steamers, so different in speed.

The West India Mail Company have been the most unfortunate of all the great steam-packet associations in the loss of their steam-ships. Since the establishment of the company in 1841, no less than eight of their fleet of steamers have been destroyed by casualties on the sea. We recapitulate their names:—The *Medina*, wrecked on the 12th of May, 1844, on a coral reef, near Turk's Island; the *Isis*, on the 8th of October, 1842, sunk off Bermuda, having previously struck on a reef; the *Solway*, wrecked off Corunna, on the 8th of April, 1843; the *Tweed*, on the 12th of February, 1847, on the Alacranes rocks, Gulf of Mexico; the *Forth*, likewise on the same rocks, on the 15th of January, 1849; the *Acteon*, lost in 1844, in the Negrellos, near Carthagena; and the new steamer *Demerara*, stranded in the river Avon, near Bristol, not long since. The wrecks of the *Tweed* and *Solway* were attended with peculiarly distressing circumstances, involving the loss of nearly 120 lives; and, in the case of the survivors of the *Tweed*, with an extent of hardship and suffering which has rarely found a parallel in the records of disasters at sea. The catalogue is closed by the burning of the *Amazon* on Sunday morning last, and by the harrowing occurrences which it has been our painful duty to recount in connexion with her destruction.

The court of directors have already taken steps to supply the gap in our communications with the West Indies and Central America caused by this dreadful calamity, and on Sunday or Monday next the *Avon* will start from Southampton.

We are informed that the *Amazon* is not insured, and the loss will consequently fall entirely upon the insurance fund of the company (a fund exclusively devoted, from annual grants derived from the profits of the company, towards casualties of shipwreck and loss of their vessels).

As to the causes of the destruction of the *Amazon*, various conjectures are offered; such as the spontaneous ignition of the coal, of which 1100 tons were aboard; the "hot bearings" above referred to, &c.; but nothing certain is yet known on the subject.

The list of passengers believed to be lost is as follows:—Messrs De Pass and Delgado, Lieutenant Geylls, Mr. Fellows, and Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Winton, Jamaica; Mr. Best and servant, Mr. Kilkelly, Messrs Callender and Stirling, and Mr. Alleyne, Barbadoes; Mr. Johnston, Mr. Burnett, and Mr. and Mrs. Scotland, Trinidad; Mr. Hick and Mr. and Mrs. M'Clinow, Demerara; Mr. Elliot Warburton, Mr. Gerard, and Madame Lacombe and child, M. Keraboe, Mr. Cigna, Mr. Barincoe, and Mr. Dellemaire, Chagres; Mr. M. Del Rio, Margaret Fitzgald, M. Fevriar, and Mr. Glennie, Vera Cruz; Miss Smyth, Porto Rico; Mr. Joel, Jamaica; Mr. Cumming and Mr. Evans, St. Thomas; Mr. Cardenas, Santa Martha; B. Wood, Mr. Anthony, and Mr. Hamilton, Jamaica; Mr. Ferrear, Grace Hove, Mr. Stribo, and Mr. Grauiar, Vera Cruz; Mr. Crevecoeur, St. Thomas; Mr. La Faye, Guadalupe.

The passengers saved are:—Mr. Hawkes, Vera Cruz; Mr. Neilson, Demerara; Mr. Sisley, Chagres. The names of the crew believed to be lost are:—W. Symons, commander; H. Roberts, chief officer, Gosport; C. H. Treweek, second officer, Bologn; J. Lewis, third officer, Kingston, Jamaica; G. D. Goodridge, fourth officer, Paisgout; J. W. Fullerton, surgeon, Donegal; M. H. Strout, purser, Middlesex; F. Estlinforth, East Indies; W. K. Stuart, Taiyho, midshipman, T. W. Shapco, purser's assistant, Southampton; D. Davis, boatswain, Cardigan; J. Murchie, carpenter, Ayr; J. Bryant, carpenter's mate and joiner, Downport, Wiltshire; J. Kay, master-at-arms, Bolton; G. Deak, Bridport; A. King, 8 roomers; W. Martin, Faroham, quartermaster, R. Carter, Poplar; P. Kelly, Aberdeen; D. Brown, Yarmouth; G. Webb, Southampton; S. Perry, Harton; R. L. Tammadge, Hitea; H. Wright, Gosport; J. M. W. Rogers, London; J. Welman, Devonport; W. Foy, Althorpe; T. Hart, Kent; Squire Glen, Greenock; J. Clark, Burnham; W. Stevenson, Ayr; J. Dove, Isle of Wight; J. J. Brown, Hants, able seaman; G. Holah, ship's cook, Mile-end; J. Porter, officers' servant, Exeter; F. Harris, discharges, boy, Isle of Wight; W. Fox, Falmouth; D. Trimming, Keyol; F. S. Wall, Southampton; C. Leddra, St. Ives; G. Gerin, Helin, boys; G. Angus, chief engineer, Dunbar; W. Angus, second engineer, Dunbar; W. Baitin, third engineer, Alphonson; W. Stone fourth engineer, Ludgion; A. Ferguson, fifth engineer, Greenock; F. Davey, sixth engineer, Exeter; I. Roberts, boiler-maker, Holyhead; J. Lamont, Jersey; C. Plimington, Morion; G. Reever, Bading; C. Lang, Alverstoke; M. Fox, Blarney; J. Fowler, Old Ford; G. Harding, Crayford; N. Wigley, Paul's-earay; T. Attwood; P. M. Kirby, Rothsea; J. Richards, Millbrook; R. Furl, Portsea; W. Paine, Southampton; J. W. Watts, Southampton; W. Scott, Harwich; W. J. Lane, Lymington; H. Day, Walton, fireman; G. Tucker, Walton; W. Jarmas, Portsea; W. Goodman, London; C. Deudney, Hastings; W. Lucas, Dorsetshire; H. Carter, Southampton; A. Bundy, Leas, coal-trimmer; J. Foster, Wyllye; S. Lees, Wolverhampton; T. Ford, Sut on, coal-trimmer; A. M'innis, lamp-trimmer, Fort Will m; W. Norris, engineers' servant, Southampton; M. Gould, 41, head waiter, Kingsend; W. G. Lambert, Chatham; W. Adams, Birky; J. Bance, Southampton, waiter; J. Blake, bed-room steward, Hopton; T. Philpott, fore-room steward, Ramsgate; R. Daniel, saloon-cook, Bethnal-green; D. Theophilus, Fench creek, France; G. Mill, second cook and scullion, Hursley; J. King, baker, Southampton; J. Watson, 4, Southsex; E. Bont, stewardess, Banff.

Those of the crew saved are Mr. Vincent, Jan, midshipman; Mr. J. Williamson, chief steward; Mr. Dunford, quartermaster; W. Foster, T. Carny, J. Maylin, J. Mewitt, W. Stear; J. H. Passmore, H. Williams, W. Stevenson, & C. Nearick, able seamen; J. R. Suter, water-tender; J. W. J. S. Sheering, and G. Thomas, firemen; W. Dummer and G. King, trimmers.

The fearful account of life and death, therefore, by the loss of the *Amazon* stands thus at present:—

Ship's company	..	..	..	..	..	..	110
Admiralty agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Passengers	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Saved	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Missing	..	..	..	..	..	..	140

Since the above was written, accounts have been received from Brest which announce the arrival there on Monday last, by a Dutch vessel, of 6 passengers and 19 of the crew, thus reducing the number lost to 115.

Among the passengers will be perceived the name of Mr. Eliot Warburton, the well-known author, who was deputed by the Atlantic and Pacific Junction Company to come to a friendly understanding with the tribes of Indians who inhabit the Isthmus of Darien. It was also the intention of Mr. Warburton to make himself perfectly acquainted with every part of those districts, and with whatever referred to their topography, climate, and resources—an intention that has been frustrated by his untimely and dreadful death. Another of the passengers by the *Amazon* was one of the deputies to the Congress of New Granada, who was returning to the seat of Government in New Granada, as one of the commissioners of the Atlantic and Pacific Junction Company, empowered by them to negotiate for some modifications of the very important concessions which were recently granted by the Legislature of New Granada to the agents of the company in reference to the construction of a ship canal.

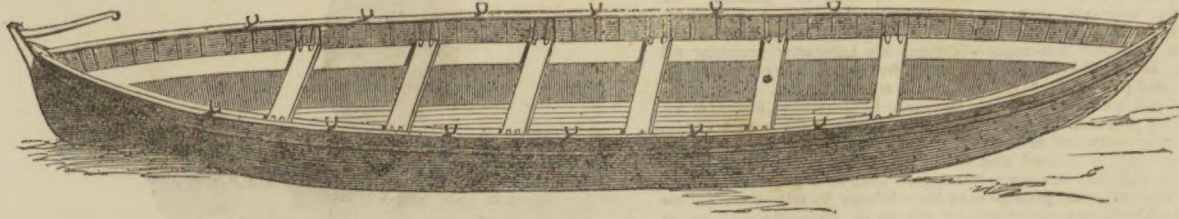
Captain William Symons, who commanded the *Amazon*, was a gentleman of known and tried courage and abilities. He was on 7 provisionally appointed to the *Amazon* in consequence of the absence from England of Captain Chapman, of the *Tay*, who was destined to be her present commander, the directors having intended Captain Symons to assume the command of the new steamer *Oronoco*, now in the Thames, and nearly ready to take her station on the main line of the West India mail service. Captain Symons has recently distinguished himself by great bravery in the Isthmus of Panama, where, by his intrepidity and coolness, he prevented the slaughter of a great number of American passengers by the infuriated natives, and where, under a heavy fire of musketry and cannon, he succeeded in conveying gold dust to the value of 2,000,000 dollars in the boats of the *Medway* on board the United States mail steam-ship *Cherokee*; and, further, in rescuing the passengers under circumstances of imminent danger, and placing them safely on board the steamer. Just prior to the sailing of the *Amazon*, Captain Symons received the subjoined letter from the United States Mail Steam-ship Company, of New York, accompanied by a magnificent silver speaking-trumpet:—

Office of the United States Mail Steam-ship Company, New York, Nov. 4, 1851.—To Captain Symons, commanding the Royal Mail-packet Company's steam-ship *Medway*.—Sir,—Captain Windle, of the *Cherokee* one of this company's steamers, has reported to us the prompt and efficient aid rendered by yourself, and the officers and crew, to the recent affray at Chagres, by which the mails, treasure, and passengers were promptly and securely placed on board the *Cherokee*. I beg you to accept, on behalf of this company, my best acknowledgments for the high act of courtesy, characteristic alike of British honour and humanity, and honourable to your flag, yourself, your officers and men. Allow me also the pleasure to tender you the accompanying speaking-trumpet, as a slight testimonial of the company's appreciation of your character and services.—I am, with great respect, your obedient servant, M. O. Roberts.

Lieut. Brady, R.N., the Admiralty agent of the *Amazon*, was sent on board to take charge of the mails at the last moment, in the place of Lieut. Wilkinson, R.N., who was prevented from embarking by a sudden indisposition, and whose life has thus been providentially preserved at the expense of that of Lieut. Brady, who was an officer well known and highly respected.

It may be added that all the officers, engineers, and crew of the *Amazon* were picked men, and were selected for appointment to the new ship from their previously known abilities and intelligence.

A subscription for the families of the crew of the *Amazon* has been commenced at Southampton, the Mayor, Mr. R. Andrews, heading the list with a subscription of £10.



GREEN'S LIFE-BOAT.

The above Life-boat, which was of such service in saving the lives of the persons who were fortunate enough to escape from the burning vessel, was one of those furnished to the *Amazon* by the Messrs. Green, of Blackwall. The following were the dimensions of the boat:—Length, 80 feet; beam, 8 feet; depth, 3 feet. She was built of mahogany, with

two skins—the inner one diagonally, and the outer fore and aft. Running entirely round her on the inside, and immediately under the thwarts, was a solid cork casing, extending to the floor of the boat, and sufficiently wide to form a good sitting for persons between the oarsmen, of whom there were twelve, double-banked. The boat was nearly flat-bottomed, and carried a single lug sail.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The important events of the last few weeks have been succeeded by a pause, of which Louis Napoleon avails himself to efface from the aspect of the Republic every democratic feature which it recently bore, while at the same time he surrounds himself with imposing state and pomp, so regal in character that he evidently aims at thereby accustoming the public to see in him the object of that homage which is usually reserved for crowned heads alone, and thus gradually and imperceptibly preparing the nation to witness, without surprise, his assuming, when the favourable occasion offers, the purple and diadem of the Empire. He has, for instance, taken up his residence in the ancient palace of the Sovereigns of France, the Tuilleries, where he gives banquets of regal magnificence; he has ordered his effigy to be struck upon the coinage of the nation, surrounded by the words "Louis Napoleon Bonaparte," without any title, whether as President or otherwise, being affixed, so that the blank may be filled up hereafter with the words "Emperor" or "King of the French," without having recourse to any violent transition; he has restored the Imperial eagles to the standards of the army; he has commanded medals commemorative of the events of December to be struck; the official organ, the *Moniteur*, recommends the restoration of the titles and orders of hereditary nobility; the trees of Liberty are uprooted everywhere; the Republican motto, "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity," is erased from the public edifices; the colossal statue of Liberty, surmounted by a Phrygian cap, which stood in the centre of the Place de Bourgogne, behind the Legislative Assembly, has been demolished; and the old anti-Republican names of the streets are to be restored, so that the Palais National again becomes the Palais Royal; the Théâtre de la Nation, the Théâtre Français; the Rue de la Concorde, the Rue Royal, &c.; and in short, to all appearances, Louis Napoleon is very assiduously paving the way to the throne of the Empire as Napoleon II.

One of the medals to commemorate the events of December has on the obverse a bust of the President, and on the reverse a figure of Reason bearing the number of affirmative votes obtained on December 21, with these words for a legend, "Vox populi vox Dei."

On Sunday evening the Prefect of the Seine gave a dinner at the Hôtel de Ville to the Ministers, the marshals of France, the mayors of the eighty-six departments of France, the generals of the army, and the principal judges of the courts of law. The President of the Republic, who was invited, excused himself from attending upon the ground of slight indisposition. At one extremity of the dining-hall, above the seats of honour, was placed the bust of Napoleon, surrounded with flags ornamented with the Imperial eagle. Among the company present were the Ministers, Marshal Exelmans; Generals Magnan, Lowestine, Lavasseur, Carrelet, Cauterbert, Roquet, Cornemuse, and Courand; Col. Fleury, the President's aide-de-camp; Col. Vieyra, the principal staff officer of the National Guard of Paris; and a number of naval, municipal, and other officials.

The Prefect of the Seine, in proposing the health of the President of the Republic, said:—

To the health of the President of the Republic. To the consolidation of this new power, which seven million of suffrages have, for the second time, rendered the arbiter of our destinies. To the accomplishment of the most ardent wishes of Louis Napoleon, the glory and prosperity of France. (Applause.) May God grant this noble prize to his courageous and patriotic devotedness—*Vive Napoleon!* (Cries of "Bravo" and "Vive Napoleon!")

M. de Morny, the Minister of the Interior, replied to the toast as follows:—

Gentlemen,—I cannot listen to these enthusiastic acclamations addressed to Louis Napoleon without deep emotion, for no one knows better than I do how much he deserves them. (Applause.) No one has been in a better position than myself to appreciate his long patience, his self-denial, and, finally, his courage and devotion to the salvation of the country. (Loud and long-continued applause and cries of "Vive Napoleon!") A Voice: "He is the Saviour of France!" Yes, Monsieur le Préfet, your wishes will be granted! This power, whose firm establishment you desire, will consolidate itself, for the finger of Providence is evident in all the events that have been accomplished—"Yes, yes!"—and Providence does not do things by halves. (Sensation. Great applause.) Now, gentlemen, I think I speak the sentiments of the Prince in thanking you for the zeal with which you have come to Paris to bring him the testimony of your sympathies and of the gratitude of the people, and in his name I drink to the delegates from all the departments of France. (Applause, and cries of "Vive Napoleon!")

On Monday the President gave a grand banquet at the Tuilleries to the provincial mayors and delegates of the departments. Four hundred guests sat down to table; and the splendid apartments of the palace were brilliantly illuminated, and the courtyard filled with troops.

On Tuesday evening he had the "Prophète" performed at the Grand Opera, for the entertainment of those gentlemen also. During the evening it was remarked that the rigorous etiquette of the ancient régime, which prescribed the maintenance of silence at the Court dramatic entertainments, was in a great degree observed on this occasion. The correspondent of the *Morning Herald* thus describes the scene:—

The house was ornamented with military trophies, and in the centre of the amphitheatre was constructed a canopy in velvet, richly ornamented with gold lace, and surmounted with a gold eagle with wings extended. Beneath this canopy, on a platform, seats were placed for the President and his suite. The front of the pit was occupied by general officers of the army of Paris; in the boxes to the right and left were the members of the *corps diplomatique* in court costume; the Princess Callimachi, Madame Rogier, and the Countess de Moltke were remarked for their beauty and for the brilliancy of their toilets. The other boxes were filled with elegantly-dressed ladies. The Princess Matilde was in the box usually occupied by the President of the Republic. The delegates of the departments were placed in the orchestra; the pit, the balcon, and the galleries were filled with officers of the army; and the upper galleries by the sub-officers. From the Boulevards to the Opera, as well as the theatre itself, the street was illuminated with gas, on stands prepared expressly for the purpose.

After a vigorous cry of "Vive Napoleon!" on the entrance of the Prince, silence prevailed throughout the rest of the evening. The drop-scene, which fell at the end of the first act, was painted for the occasion. On it were written the words "Vox populi vox Dei," and beneath them "December 20 and 21." Between the first and second acts, the orchestra and the chorus-singers executed the air of "La victoire est à nous," from the "Caravane du Caire." At the conclusion of this morceau, a loud cry from all parts of the house of "Vive Napoleon!" was raised. The performance terminated about twelve o'clock. On the President leaving the theatre he was hailed with great enthusiasm in the street, which resounded with cries of "Vive Napoleon!" "Vive l'Empereur!"

The Constitution has not yet been promulgated.

The *Moniteur* publishes an unusual number of decrees. General Gudiv is promoted to the rank of General of Division, and eighteen Colonels to that of Generals of Brigade. A great number of appointments and promotions in the Legion of Honour are announced, and decrees appear removing the captains of several ships and frigates, and appointing new officers to command in their place.

The following ex-representatives have been liberated from St. Pélagie:—MM. Joret, Huguenin, Teilhard-Laterisse, and Paulin Durieu. Twenty-five other ex-representatives still remain there. Colonel Forestier is also at St. Pélagie. M. Baune is at the prison Mazas.

There are 130 prisoners in Bordeaux charged with being concerned in the late insurrection.

It is said that the Generals confined at Ham will soon be set at liberty, "and allowed to travel for a year or so." General Lamoricière is suffering from rheumatism, occasioned by the dampness of his place of confinement.

On Saturday the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres elected its bureau for 1852. M. Natalis de Wailly was chosen president in place of M. Guizot, and M. Jomard vice-president in place of M. de Wailly. The Académie of Moral and Political Sciences also renewed its bureau on Saturday. M. Vivien was elected president in place of M. de Tocqueville, and M. d'Amiron was chosen vice-president.

A marble bust of Champollion the younger, executed by M. Emile Thomas, is about to be placed in the Museum at the Palace of Versailles. Two busts lately seen at the National Exhibition have been given to the Museum of the Louvre—that of N. Poussin, by M. Auguste Préaux; and that of Fragonard, by M. Antonin Moine.

The election returns from Algeria show that the votes of the people there were not very favourable to Louis Napoleon: 6527 voted for, and 5735 against him; while 50,000 abstained altogether.

AUSTRIA.

A series of Imperial decrees were published at Vienna, on the 1st inst., formally abolishing the Constitution of the 4th of March, 1849, and all the political privileges and fundamental laws and rights conferred by it; and in its stead the old absolutist and bureaucratic system of administration is restored, with some modifications of minor details as set forth in a sketch, given in one of the decrees, of the principles on which the future organisation of the state is to be based. Trial by jury and open courts are abolished, and the publicity of Governmental or communal proceedings no longer tolerated. The proceedings in the superior provincial courts, and in the Supreme Court of Justice, are to be in writing, not oral; and the same civil and penal codes, the reorganisation of which will be immediately effected, are to be valid in all the provinces.

The object which this new scheme of Government seeks to accomplish is, that the countries united to the Austrian empire by virtue of ancient historical or new titles are to form the indivisible elements of an hereditary Austrian empire, notwithstanding their irreconcilable differences of language, origin, and religion, and the antipathies and jealousies of race arising out of them—an end perfectly unattainable, and certain to be productive of vast evil, oppression, and suffering.

UNITED STATES.

The advices from New York this week are to the 24th ult., on which day a telegraphic despatch had been received from Washington, stating that the Capitol, in which Congress holds its sittings, was in flames. The fire was discovered about break of day, and, before assistance could be obtained, the valuable library of Congress was burnt. The telegraphic despatch adds that water was scarce, and it was impossible to use engines, buckets only being available. The weather was cold and frosty.

The public interest in Kossuth continued unabated. He had left New York for Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, and will extend his tour to Cincinnati. The *New York Tribune* sums up the contributions to Kossuth, during his stay at New York, to 11,593 dollars 92 cents. In addition, he had received a present of 500 acres of land from Mr. O'Reilly, and a great number of books, maps, and other things from different persons; three gold rings, several beautifully-worked purses, a number of portraits, and a casket containing two bullets, one used at the battle of Bunker's-hill, and the other at the battle of New Orleans, as well as locks of hair of Washington and Jefferson.

The proceedings in Congress were of little interest. A debate on the Compromise Acts, in which Mr. Foote, of Mississippi, and Major Rhett, of South Carolina, were the chief speakers, had consumed much time in the Senate. A message from the President, in answer to a resolution of the Senate calling for information on the subject of the firing into the *Prometheus*, had been presented. It declined to furnish the precise instructions forwarded to the United States Minister at the Court of St. James' on this delicate question. Mr. Carter (Democrat), of Ohio, moved the suspension of the rules, to enable him to introduce a resolution for the appointment of a committee of five to wait on Kossuth on his arrival at the capital, to introduce him to the House of Representatives. The motion was lost by a majority of 111 to 58. The bill establishing a mint in California had passed.

The death of the Hon. Joel R. Poinsett, formerly Secretary of War under the presidency of Mr. Van Buren, and at an earlier period Minister Plenipotentiary to Mexico during the Administration of Mr. John Quincy Adams, is announced. He expired at his residence, in Statesburg, South Carolina, on Friday, the 12th of December, at the venerable age of 73.

The advices from Central America relate principally to the question of the route to California. They were brought by the steam-ship *Georgia*, which arrived at New York on the 21st ult., from Chagres, with nearly 3,000,000 dollars in gold dust on freight and in the hands of passengers.

The *Georgia* was detained three days and a half at Chagres by heavy weather, which prevented the landing and reception of passengers and freight. The current ran out of the river so strong that after several ineffectual attempts to enter the river it was found impossible to land. Captain Porter deemed it advisable to run the ship down to Navy Bay, and the passengers were landed there. Mr. J. L. Stephens, the energetic president of the railroad company, at first strongly objected to opening the road for travel until the connexion to Bayou Soldada was made, as he feared the influx of passengers would interfere with the progress of the work. He finally consented to the temporary use of the road, and for the first time, on the 8th of December, the passenger and freight trains were run over the road. All the passengers of the *Georgia* outward (say 700), together with Adams and Co.'s express, went over the road on the 8th; and the homeward passengers (850), with the mails and specie (the latter in charge of Mr. Paine, purser of the *Georgia*, who has earned the credit of bringing the first specie train over the Panama Railroad), came down on the 9th. Mr. Stephens confidently expected to have the road in running order to Bayou Soldada in two months. This will save nearly 40 miles of dangerous river navigation, and nearly one day in time. The company had fine passenger and baggage cars ready for use, and large hotels were being built to accommodate the travelling public when the road should be formally opened. The road as far as Gatun was in very good order, and the last down-train brought 300 passengers, the mails, and specie, without detention or accident. Although the late rains had been the heaviest known for many years, Mr. Stephens asserted that in no place had the embankment given way, or the least injury been sustained by the road.

A severe gale had been experienced at Cruces (Isthmus of Panama), half of which town had been nearly washed away.

Accounts from San Juan del Norte report that Manoy had been banished to San Salvador. Rumours prevailed that another revolution had broken out in Nicaragua.

From Mexico we learn, under date the 19th of November, that a squadron of five British vessels had appeared off Vera Cruz.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The news received from the Cape this week is of a most disastrous character. The Kaffirs are not only able to maintain their ground against our troops, but have inflicted such losses on officers and men, that, in some localities, it was found advisable to withdraw from the unequal contest with the armed savages until reinforcements arrive. Meanwhile the Kaffirs have acquired the utmost confidence and enthusiasm in all their marauding expeditions, which were generally crowned

with success, the lives and property of the unfortunate colonists being generally sacrificed to their revenge and rapacity wherever they chose to appear in large numbers.

The accounts are dated the 2d December, and show the hot character of the contest maintained during the preceding month against our troops by the Kaffirs, who, in a series of operations, fought with a determined bravery never before exhibited by them. On the 6th, 7th, and 8th November they maintained a formidable resistance in the Waterkloof against the troops under the command of Major-General Somerset. They were in great force, and fought with desperate courage. On this unfortunate occasion Lieutenant-Colonel Fordyce was killed, at the first volley on the 6th. The enemy was partially driven from his position, but, unfortunately, not without several other casualties among the troops. Lieutenant Carey, of the 74th, two sergeants and two rank and file, were killed, and Lieutenant Gordon shot through both thighs (since dead), and eight men (all of the 74th Regiment) wounded. On the following day the operations were resumed, and the enemy was repulsed with considerable loss; but on our side Captain Devenish, of the Beaufort West Levy, was mortally wounded in the head; three men of the 91st, and four of the levies, were also wounded. On the 8th, the weather proving extremely inclement, Major-General Somerset withdrew his troops to the camp in the Blinkwater, with the intention of undertaking no further movements against the enemy in that quarter at present.

The deaths of Captain Addison, of the 2d Royals, and Ensign Ricketts, of the 91st, who were severely wounded in the battles of the Fish River Bush on the 14th of October, are also announced.

It is said that the troops are in a most dissatisfied state of mind at their continued ill-success, overpowered as they are by the superior numbers of the enemy; and it would appear as though there was a disposition on their part not to go out to be shot at with such fearful odds against them, if credit is to be given to a letter from General Somerset's camp, which says:—

Many openly declare they will go there no more to be butchered like cattle. It is a fearful sacrifice of human life to send men as brave as ever shouldered a firelock to such a place, with such an enemy to contend against. Courage here is of no avail; discipline and steadiness under fire only render the men better targets for the lurking savages.

The Governor, Sir H. Smith, was at King William's Town, in ill-health, caused by over-exertion. He was concentrating a force of 3000 men, for the purpose of despatching it across the Kei, into the territory of Krell.

Her Majesty's steamer *Vulcan*, which left Queenstown for the Cape on the 10th October, with about 800 men, chiefly of the 43d Regiment, and some of the 12th Foot and the Lancers, had not arrived at the Cape on the 2d of December, when the accounts left.

The draft ordinances, embodying the new colonial Constitution, arrived by the *Propontis* on the 31st of October. They were subsequently forwarded to King William's Town for the Governor's perusal, and when returned by him were published, on the 27th of November, in the *Government Gazette*. On the 28th they were read a first time in council, and their second reading was postponed for two months. The constitution embodied in these ordinances had given great satisfaction to the colonists, and this uncalculated and unexpected postponement has caused extreme indignation.

Sir Andries Stockenstrom and Mr. Fairbairn had returned to the colony, where they were cordially welcomed by their fellow-colonists.

FATAL AFFAIR WITH NEGROES ON THE COAST OF AFRICA.

At the moment that the Screw Company's Cape Mail-packet *Harbinger* was leaving Sierra Leone for England, on the 17th December, her Majesty's screw-ship *Niger*, 14, Commander Heath, arrived from Lagos, and boarded her, with despatches from Commodore Bruce for England.

These despatches, it was understood, contain official information to the Admiralty of a desperate and fatal fight with the negroes at Lagos by the *Niger* ship's company; in which affair Messrs. Dyer and Hall, mates of the *Niger*, were killed, and nine men were also killed and wounded.

It appears that for some time there has been a display of some very ill feeling between those on the coast who are desirous of suppressing slavery and a party whose "occupation has gone" by the activity of the cruisers in putting down the slave trade. The former party has become zealous in their endeavours to prevent the latter from bringing slaves from the interior to the coast market; and the slavers, on the other hand, have attempted by every means to coerce our friends, until at length they have come to blows.

The *Niger*, cruising on the coast, determined on a demonstration against the blacks, landed her boats to protect our allies and to drive off their enemies, when a bloody encounter ensued, and the seamen and marines of the *Niger*, being overpowered by numbers, were obliged to retreat, fighting their way to their boats, with the disastrous casualties above reported.

The Commander-in-chief, Commodore Bruce, in the *Penelope*, 16, steam-frigate, Captain Lyster, with the *Sealark*, 8, and one or two other men-of-war, arrived off Lagos, from Ascension, after the fight, and, remaining there, despatched the *Niger* to Sierra Leone, to complete provisions, and to take down a detachment of the West India Regiment, when it was expected the Commodore would commence active operations against the slave-dealing miscreants, and, it is hoped, will inflict upon them such a chastisement as shall avenge the deaths of the gallant officers and seamen of the *Niger*, and shall put a finishing stroke to slave-dealing in that quarter of the coast.

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND THE LIBERATOR GENERAL SANTANA.

In the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of December 27 we announced that Souloque (or Faustin I.) had consented to a peace with the Dominican Republic, through the intervention of the English, French, and American Consuls, and we also published an illustration of the English and French steamers in the harbour of Gonaïve, Hayti, the sight of whose guns made such an impression on the black Emperor. We now supply a Portrait of the Liberator General Santana, the cattle-grazier in the province of Seybo, who was destined to free his country in 1843. Many of the Dominican Deputies (including the present President of the Republic, Senor Buenaventura) entered into secret negotiations with the French Rear-Admiral Mosges, M. Barrot (then on a special mission), and M. Levasseur, resident French Consul-General in Port-au-Prince (Hayti), for the Protectorate of France (*suzeraineté*), yielding to the French the fertile peninsula of Samana, with its large bay, one of the finest and most capacious harbours in the world, and which, in regard to its situation, is to the Gulf of Mexico what Mayotta is to the Indian Ocean; but the French agents refused to take upon themselves the responsibility of accepting these propositions until they had communicated with their Government at home. Pedro de Santana was opposed to the intervention of France on such terms. M. de Juicheureau was, however, sent as consul of France to San Domingo, the French agents having obtained from Rivière an exequatur for him, no French consulate having existed before. All intrigues, native and foreign, were defeated by the rising of the Dominicans on the night of the 26th of February, 1844; they drove the Haytian garrison into the fort, which capitulated four days afterwards, under M. de Juicheureau's mediation. Pedro Santana, on the 28th of February, proclaimed the Dominican Republic in the province of Seybo: the people elected him general of brigade, and the Junta at San Domingo confirmed the appointment. On the news arriving at Port-au-Prince, the President Rivière marched with 20,000 men upon Azua, in the southern part of San Domingo, and gave orders to General Pierrot to attack the northern provinces, and then to effect a juncture with him for a combined attack on the capital. Santana, having been directed by the Junta, on the 12th of March, 1844, to defend the eastern frontiers, boldly attacked and defeated Rivière at Azua on the 19th, but, being badly provisioned, and destitute of military stores, could not follow up his success. General Pierrot, however, was defeated at Santiago, and the Haytian troops then began to desert in masses. Rivière was superseded in his command, and banished; and his successor, General Souffron, was hotly pursued by Santana, whose courage and decision had won him the admiration and attachment of his army: he was proclaimed general of division in May, and the grade confirmed by the Junta. On the dissolution of the executive, Santana made a triumphal entry into San Domingo on the 13th of July. He was proclaimed "Gefe Supremo," supreme Chief and Dictator. He refused the title and the responsibility, but he organised a new Junta, who nominated him their President. The session of the first Congress commenced on the 25th of September, 1844, and Santana was elected as President of the Republic. On the 16th of November he took the oath prescribed by the Constitution, but he had revolutionary dissensions to put down with a strong hand in February 1845, in July 1846, and December 1847. On the 4th of August, 1848, he resigned the Presidency and retired to his farm at the Prado, near Seybo. General Ximenes was his successor, and during his Presidency her Majesty's Government appointed a Consul, and thus acknowledged the independence of the Dominican Republic. In April, 1849, Souloque invaded the country, and advanced to Azua. The consternation was great, and Santana, at the call of the people, quitted his farm, to command the army. When all was nearly lost, he



THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—THE LIBERATOR GENERAL PEDRO SANTANA.

had *carte blanche*. On the 21st of April Soulouque attacked Santana at the river Las Carreras, who had only 400 men, the Haytians amounting to 6000 men at Ocoa. The *machete*, a kind of sword resembling the boarding cutlass, is a most formidable weapon in the hands of a Dominican. Having fired their muskets, the Dominicans, with their *machetes*, under cover of the smoke, crossed the shallow part of the river, and boldly attacked the Haytian troops, who were so taken by surprise at the temerity of the onslaught that they gave way, and a panic ensued. They fled, leaving their guns and baggage on the field. This short battle of Las Carreras delivered the Dominicans of their invaders, but they suffered from internal civil war. The new President had been called upon by the people to resign his functions to Santana, but refused; the latter besieged the city; ultimately, through the intervention of the Consuls of England, France, and the United States, the President surrendered the city and embarked on board a British man-of-war for Curaçoa. Santana entered in triumph on the 30th of May, and acted as Chief until Senor Buenaventura was elected President. Santana then again retired to his farm, the nation evincing their gratitude by bestowing upon him the title of "Liberator of the Country;" and further decreed that his portrait, at the expense of the nation, should be placed in the palace between those of the immortal Columbus and the brave General Sanchez. A house within the city, the property of the nation, was also settled on Santana and his descendants in perpetuity.

Santana, in accomplishing his anxious desire for a private life, continued to advise when called upon. England has concluded a treaty of amity and commerce with the Dominican Republic, the ratifications of which were exchanged last year; but the Emperor Soulouque, yielding to the mediation of England and France, only recognised the independence of San Domingo last October.

The Dominican Republic has a population of about 220,000. Our trade there is the largest of any nation. The flag of the Republic is alternately quartered blue and red, divided in the centre by a white cross of half the breadth of the quarters. The arms of the Republic are a cross, against the foot of which the open Bible is placed, surrounded by a trophy of arms and the motto of the Republic, "God, Country, and Liberty."

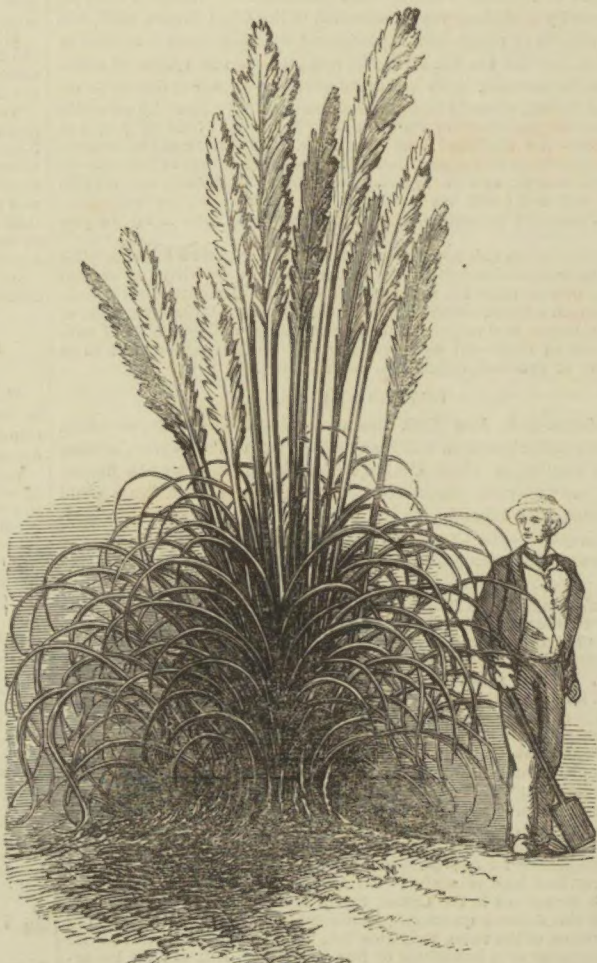
Pedro Santana, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Dominican Republic, was born June 29, 1801, in the small town called Hincha. In figure he is not much above the middle height, but is portly and of muscular make, although he is suffering from infirmities engendered by hard-hips during his campaigns. He stoops slightly. His face indicates strong energy

and determined resolution; his forehead is shaded with black hair, but is not lofty; his eyebrows are thick, and cover a pair of piercing eyes, which flash fire when aroused to passion. He wears bushy whiskers, but no moustache. He has a sallownish-ruddy complexion. In his dress he displays a marked contrast to the Emperor Soulouque—Santana the Liberator avoiding all ornaments. He is mild and gentlemanlike, but cautious in conversation, and listens and ponders well before he delivers an opinion. But, when he is roused and becomes animated, he speaks in the strong dialect of his province, with a harsh intonation, and uses emphatic gestures, without, however, losing command of himself. This remarkable man in his own house is perfectly well-bred and free from ostentation. His serious demeanour might lead strangers to suppose that he is austere. He has unbounded authority and prestige over his soldiers: he wins them by an insinuating address, and awes them by the air of authority with which nature has stamped him. He lived in affluence previous to the revolution which we have described elsewhere; but he sacrificed his property to assist in the work of effecting the separation, and his means are now much reduced, and the Dominican Republic, having been oppressed with a war of seven years' duration, is not able to make him a compensation for his losses. Long previous to his having been called into active life on behalf of his country, he was esteemed as a laborious and upright man, engaged in commercial transactions, and his credit was unlimited in San Domingo. Latterly, Santana turned his attention more to the cutting of mahogany and the rearing of cattle and horses. So much were his character and judgment respected, that he was always consulted in difficulties by his neighbours, and he gained a kind of patriarchal sway in his province. Santana is married, but has no children.

When the Emperor Soulouque was organising, a few months since, measures for another invasion of San Domingo, by assembling large masses of Haytian troops at the frontiers of the Dominican Republic, Santana again quitted his farm to defend his country. But we learn, from the latest advices (Oct. 25th), that, British, American, and French intervention having secured the independence of the republic, the Liberator had returned to his home, after disbanding the civic guard.

PAMPAS GRASS.

THIS magnificent specimen of the giant vegetation of South Brazil is now flourishing at St. Wolstan's, near Dublin. The Pampas grass, *Gy-*



PAMPAS GRASS.



KAFFIR BOY, FROM GRAHAM'S TOWN.

nerium argenteum of botanists is a native of the extensive flat plains of South Brazil, called "Pampas" by the natives. It was introduced to Europe by Mr. Moore, of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin, in the year 1841, who then received seeds of it from Mr. John Tweedie, of Buenos Ayres. It has been found sufficiently hardy to withstand the rigours of the severest winters which have occurred during the last ten years, without protection, in the several parts of Britain where it has been tried. It is difficult to convey an adequate idea of the beauty of this gigantic grass by a Sketch. In Ireland, where it appears to grow with most luxuriance, the flower-stems attain to a height of from ten to twelve feet, and are produced abundantly.

The plant generally begins to bloom about the beginning of October and continues in perfection until the end of November. It is suitable for being grown as a single specimen, on a grass lawn, or for any portion of pleasure-ground, especially that near water. There is, perhaps, none of our recently-introduced hardy plants calculated to produce a finer effect than the Pampas grass.

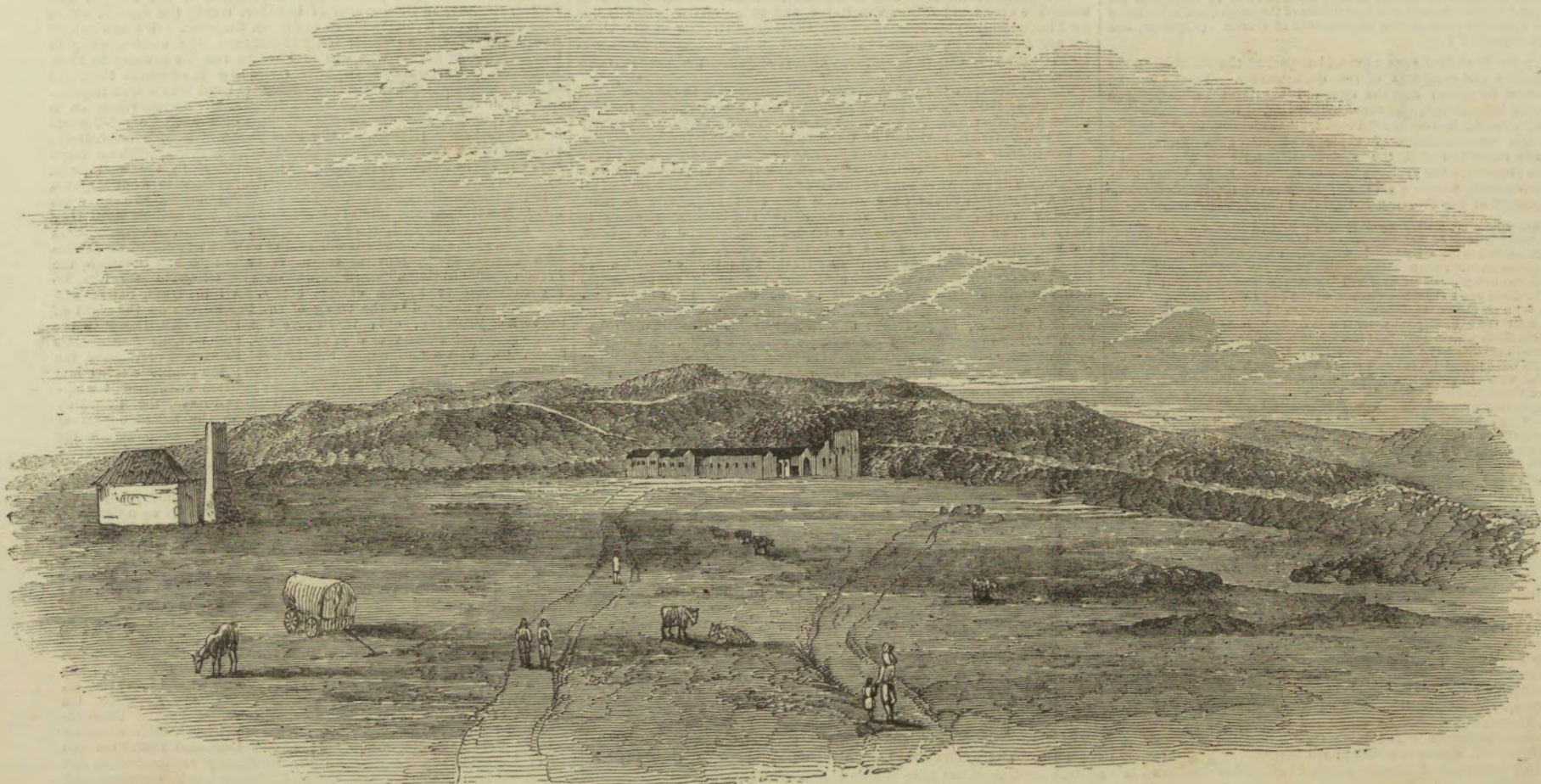
THE KAFFIR WAR.

THE intelligence received on Tuesday from the seat of war in Kaffria is of a disastrous character. Led on by Hottentots, the enemy continues to make predatory incursions on the colonists—stealing their cattle, burning their farmsteads, and murdering the inhabitants wherever they can secure them. A summary of the events will be found in another column. We here engrave an interesting locality, from a Sketch by an obliging correspondent.

Committee is a detached post, about 23 miles from Graham's Town, with a dense bush of nearly 15 miles on each side of the road leading to it, and where the Kaffirs make such great inroads in the colony during war time; it being so bushy that in their return from the colony with stolen cattle they can immediately, on being pursued by our troops, conceal themselves, and are naturally fortified. The post is one in connexion with many others of from 11 to 14 miles from each other, established as a protection to the line of frontier of the colony, with part of the Great Fish River for its boundary, with the Kaffir territory on the opposite side. Committee is capable of holding about 50 to 100 men, but during peace there is generally 1 officer and 30 rank and file.

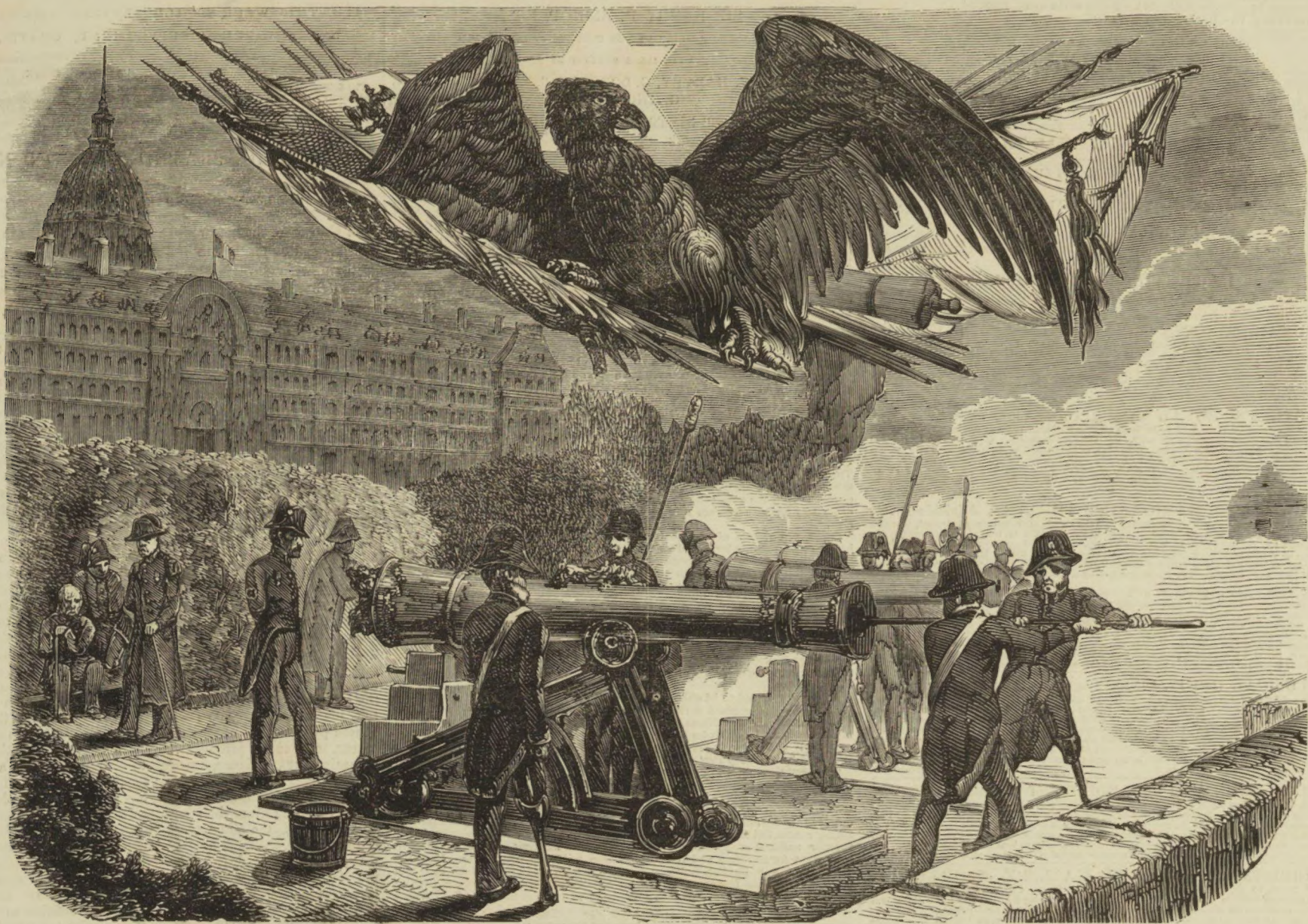
Accompanying is a Sketch of a Kaffir Boy, who, in 1848, followed his master, an officer in the army (from Graham's to Cape Town), 600 miles, to go with him to England, as his mother said he was never to leave him; he is supposed to be the first Kaffir, or the first of his tribe, that was ever brought to England; but, in consequence of the coldness of the climate, he was obliged to return the following year to his native country.

The Portrait is from a drawing by Mr. R. H. C. Udsell, of Portsmouth



COMMITTEE, A DETACHED POST NEAR GRAHAM'S TOWN.

INAUGURATION OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.



THE CANNON OF THE INVALIDES FIRING A SALUTE OF 70 GUNS.



RECEPTION OF THE CONSTITUTED AUTHORITIES AT THE TUILERIES.—(SEE PAGE 34.)

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

The past week has been a very quiet one in Court life. The Queen and the Prince Consort, with the youthful members of the Royal family, have taken their accustomed exercise daily.

On Sunday, after an early walk in the Home Park, her Majesty and his Royal Highness, with the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, attended divine service in the private chapel of the Castle.

On Monday the Countess de Neuilly and the Duchess of Orleans paid a visit to her Majesty.

On Tuesday and Wednesday the Prince Consort enjoyed the sport of shooting, accompanied by Sir William Middleton, and attended by the Earl of Morley, Captain the Hon. J. Denman, and Colonel F. H. Seymour.

The Duchess of Orleans visited her Majesty on Wednesday, and partook of luncheon. On the same day the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster, and Lady Octavia Grosvenor, arrived at the Castle on a visit to her Majesty and the Prince Consort.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge will, it is understood, by permission of her Majesty, in future occupy the apartments lately held by the King of Hanover in St. James's Palace. Her Royal Highness is shortly expected to return to this country from Germany.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester entertained a select party at dinner on Monday evening, at Gloucester House. The party included the Countess of Jersey and the Lady Clementina Villiers, the Earl and Countess Craven, the Hon. Colonnell Liddell, &c.

The venerable Duke of Somerset has quite recovered from his recent indisposition, and their Graces will shortly resume their dinner and evening parties.

The Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch are entertaining a select circle at Drumlanrig Castle, Dumfriesshire. The youthful Lord Henry Scott, who is staying at Malta, was, according to the last letters, improving in health.

The Marquis of Worcester arrived at Beaufort House on Saturday, from Dover, where his Lordship has been to take leave of his relatives, Captain Somerset, M.P., of the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade, and the Hon. Leicester Curzon, which gallant officers have embarked with their regiment on board the *Megara* steam-transport, for service at the Cape.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury gave a magnificent ball and supper, on Friday night week, at the family seat in Hertfordshire, to upwards of 300 of the nobility and gentry of the county, as well as a large and distinguished circle of friends staying at the mansion.

The Marchioness of Ailesbury, who joined the circle visiting the Earl of Cardigan, at Deane Park, last week, left that seat, on Tuesday, to visit the Earl De Grey, at Wrest Park, Beds.

The Earl De Grey is entertaining a large party of fashionables at his splendid seat, Wrest Park. The Earl and Countess Cowper, Viscount and Viscountess Canning, Mr. and Lady Mary Vyner, Lady Stuart de Rothesay, and some of the neighbouring nobility and gentry are amongst the visitors. The noble Earl has had a temporary amateur theatre erected, and a series of theatrical performances are about to take place.

The Earl of Morley and Captain Hon. J. Denman have relieved the Marquis of Ormonde and Colonel N. Hood in the duties of Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Earl of Dartmouth has left St. James's-square for Sandwell Hall, Staffordshire. The noble Earl came from his seat to take leave of his son, the Hon. George Legge, who has embarked with his regiment (the Rifles) for the Cape of Good Hope.

The Countess of Dunraven gave birth to a son (still-born), on the 2d inst., at Lissadell, the seat of Sir Robert Gore Booth, Bart., M.P.

Viscount Beresford continues in very indifferent health at Bedgebury Park. Mr. A. B. Hope, M.P., and Lady Mildred Hope are staying with the noble and gallant Viscount.

Lord and Lady Lyndhurst have been passing the holidays in town, in consequence of the continued indisposition of his Lordship's youngest daughter, the Hon. Miss Copley.

His Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski have left the French Embassy, in Grosvenor-square, for Broadlands, on a visit to Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston. Lady William Russell has left town for Broadlands, as also Sir Henry and Lady Lytton Bulwer.

His Excellency the Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer have left town for Brussels.

Monsieur Drouet has returned from the Continent to take the direction of the Belgian Legation during Monsieur Van de Weyer's absence.

We regret to learn that no amendment has taken place in the health of the Earl Brownlow, whose condition occasions much uneasiness to the members of his family.

The health of Lord Panmure continues, we regret to learn, in a rather precarious state. The improvement which recently took place did not continue, and great solicitude exists as to the issue.

Prince Albert has intimated to the Government School of Mines the intention of the Prince of Wales to grant two annual exhibitions (to be named the "Duke of Cornwall's Exhibitions"), the amount of each being sufficient to defray the expenses of the course of instruction at that institution.

ALLEGED MARRIAGE OF PRINCE NAPOLEON.—The *Breslau Gazette* has the following from Vienna, 27th ult.:—"M. de Persigny is expected here from Berlin, and he is to proceed to St. Petersburg, to explain the intentions of the President of the French Republic with respect to his home and foreign policy, and to endeavour to secure the support of the northern powers. At the same time he will demand the hand of the wealthy Princess Wassa for Prince Napoleon. The Princess is nearly the same age as the President, and no doubt is entertained here that she will consent. In that case her illustrious brother will give up his grade of colonel in the Austrian army, and will be appointed to elevated functions in France." A Frankfort Journal says that M. de Persigny is expected in that city on a special mission to the Germanic Confederation.

AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTS.—The following is an extract from a private letter, dated Sydney, May 24:—"During my thirteen years' residence in this colony, although I landed with not more than twenty sovereigns, I have, in spite of many losses in trade, arising principally from my not having been brought up with habits of business, contrived to make myself worth something like £4000; but what the prospects are for getting on in the world, now that this important discovery (gold) has been made, go beyond my power of determining. My advice to all and any of you, who may find it hard to bring up a family in London, would most decidedly be to come to this colony. The climate (like the south of Europe), the abundance of the necessities of life, and all the other advantages of a new country—as the absence of heavy taxation, and freedom from that disheartening competition in every employment at home—were, previously to the discovery of gold, great inducements to parties to emigrate here; but now, when, from the highly remunerative employment of digging, the working man will be assured of a permanent high rate of wages, my opinion decidedly is, that no country on the face of the earth can compare with the British colony of New South Wales. There is room here for hundreds of thousands—no fear of the thing being overdone—and, what is more, the old residents here, instead of looking upon you with a jealous eye, as in America, where you must ride five years before you can become a citizen, will welcome you with open arms. The boundless flocks and herds will perish in great numbers for the next twelve months, for want of hands to care for them. Then, again, it has been found by widely-extended experiment, during the past two years, that cotton will grow here almost wild; so that the countryman in particular will, on landing, be bewildered to choose between the many different most promising employments which invite him to make money."

TREATMENT OF ENGLISHMEN BY THE AUSTRIANS.—Florence, Dec. 30.—The openly-avowed principle of rendering the Continent uninhabitable by Englishmen has received a new development in an incident that has just occurred here. Yesterday morning, a young Englishman, named Maysher, who had only been a short time in Florence, after standing to listen to the band of an Austrian regiment, was quietly proceeding along one of the narrow streets which issue from the Piazza del Duomo. He had not gone far, when he perceived a *banocino* advancing towards him with all the speed at which these country cars are usually driven. To avoid the danger, he jumped suddenly back, and in doing so came in contact with a young Austrian officer, who was at the same moment coming up at the head of his guard. A smart blow from the flat of a sabre on the back was the mild rebuke for this purely accidental collision. The Englishman, very naturally indignant, demanded in his imperfect Italian the meaning of the outrage. A few angry words were interchanged on either side, when another officer, who accompanied the party, stepped forward and cut the young Englishman down, laying his head open by a sabre wound of fully a finger's length. This done, the party proceeded on its way, and our countryman, whose blood covered a considerable space in the street, was conveyed to the City Hospital. I have only to add, that, among military men of every nation of Europe, of which there are individuals at present here, but one opinion prevails as to this event—that it was brutal and unsoldierlike, totally unbecoming by the event, and evidencing as great a degree of cowardice as want of self-command. It will satisfy Mr. Maysher's friends to learn that his wound, though severe, is not dangerous, and that he is receiving every attention of skill and kindness from the officials of the hospital.—*Correspondence of the Morning Post.*

THE GOLD FIELDS OF AUSTRALIA.—Accounts have been received by the ship *Honduras*, dated Port Phillip, the 1st of September, which represent the gold-seeking operations in that district as being very successful. The *Honduras* has brought home the first samples from the Clunes Diggings, at the Pyrenees. Further discoveries of gold had been made at the Victoria, Bunilongong, and Banke's Marsh Diggings, just before the *Honduras* sailed, and fears were entertained that the whole of the labouring population would leave for the mines in the summer, and thus cause considerable difficulty in securing the next clip and harvest.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE MAITLAND PRIZE.—The sum of £1000 having been accepted by the University for the purpose of instituting a prize, to be called "Sir Peregrine Maitland's Prize," for an English essay on some subject connected with the propagation of the Gospel, through missionary exertions, in India and other parts of the heathen world, the prize to be given once in every three years, and to consist of the accruing interest of the principal sum during the preceding three years, the Vice-Chancellor has given notice that the prize will this year be given for the best essay on the following subject:—"The duty, as well as policy, of Christian states to encourage missions for the conversion of the heathen." Candidates for the prize must be, at the time when the subject is given out, bachelors of arts under the standing of M.A., or students in civil law or medicine, of not less than four or more than seven years' standing, not being graduate in either faculty, who shall be required, before they are admitted to become candidates, to produce, from their respective professors, certificates that they have performed the exercises necessary for the degree of bachelor of law or medicine. The exercises must be sent in to the Vice-Chancellor before the division of the Easter Term 1852, each bearing some motto, and accompanied by a sealed paper bearing the same motto, and enclosing the name of the candidate and that of his college.

APPOINTMENTS AND PREFERMENTS.—The following appointments and preferments have recently taken place:—*Provostship*: The Rev. Dr. Macdonald, to Trinity College, Dublin. *Rectories*: The Rev. Henry Albany Bowles, to Merrow, Surrey; the Rev. G. W. Derby, to Firsfield, Norfolk; the Rev. Lewis R. C. Griffiths, to Swindon, near Cheltenham; the Rev. Barton L. dge, to St. Martin's, Colchester; the Rev. William John Percy, to Silton, Dorset. *Vicarages*: The Rev. William J. E. Bennett (late of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, and St. Barnabas, Piccadilly), to St. Peter's, Frome Selwood, Somerset; the Rev. Alexander Peters Birrell, to Oving, Sussex; the Rev. Thomas Garnham Luard, to Stansted-Mount-Fitchet, Essex; the Rev. T. C. Price, to St. Augustine, Bristol.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received testimonials of esteem and regard:—The Rev. Edward Spooner, from several friends at Kenilworth, on resigning the curacy; the Rev. Thomas Stanton, from the teachers and scholars of the Shaftesbury National Schools, on his resignation of the living; the Rev. W. F. Kerr, from the congregation of Trinity Church, Plymouth; the Rev. Robert Hey, incumbent of Belper, from the Sunday-school teachers; the Rev. E. G. Rudbeck, late curate of Westbury with Priddy, from the parishioners; the Rev. F. S. Page, vicar of St. Paul's, Preston, from the congregation; the Rev. Thomas Woodman, curate of St. Michael's, Stockwell, Surrey, from the congregation; the Rev. Thomas Moore, curate of St. Simon's, Salford, from the rev. the incumbent, teachers, and members of the congregation. The Rev. Henry Jones, M.A., from the incumbent and parishioners of Northstoke and Newnham, Oxon, on his resigning the curacy of those parishes.

MR. BENNETT AND THE PEOPLE OF FROME.—The nomination by the Marchioness of Bath of Mr. Bennett, recently incumbent of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, to the vicarage of Frome, has called forth a strong remonstrance from the clergy and laity there, the strongest objections being entertained by them to the peculiar doctrines held by that gentleman. An address has been presented to the Marchioness on the subject, in which the objections of the parishioners are set forth at length. The Marchioness has returned the following reply:—"Longleat, Jan. 3.—Rev. Sir, I have received with sincere regret a communication signed by yourself and others, relating to the appointment of the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett to the vicarage of Frome, in my gift. In reply, I beg to inform you that the appointment is already made, and cannot be revoked.—I remain, Rev. Sir, yours faithfully, H. BATH.—The Rev. W. Calvert, Vicarage, Frome."

COUNTRY NEWS.

REFORM MEETING AT BRISTOL.—In consequence of Lord John Russell's announcement of his intention to introduce a new Reform Bill in the ensuing session, a public meeting of Reformers, of all classes, was held on Monday night at Bristol. George Thomas, Esq., presided; and among those on the platform were the Hon. H. F. Berkeley, M.P.; Joseph Coates and W. Herapath, Esqrs., magistrates; H. Vergor, C. J. Thomas, C. Tovey, T. F. Gilbert, Esqrs., and other members of the Town Council, and several of the leading citizens. The meeting was most enthusiastic in favour of an extensive measure of reform, and the following resolutions were agreed to:—"That this meeting recognises with pleasure the declared intentions of his Majesty's first Minister of the Crown to introduce into Parliament early next session a bill for the better representation of the people." "That this meeting desires to express its deliberate conviction that any measure of Parliamentary reform which does not provide for the vote by ballot, the abolition of small constituencies, and the more fair and equal distribution of electoral districts, the extension of the franchise to all ratepayers, triennial Parliaments, and the abolition of the property qualification for members of Parliament, will be inadequate and unsatisfactory to the nation at large." A petition to Parliament embodying the resolutions was also adopted. A similar meeting was held on Monday, in Oxford, at which Sir J. Walmesley, M.P., and Mr. G. Thompson, M.P., were present.

THE BANK FORGERIES IN YORKSHIRE.—Mr. Scott, the manager for the Yorkshire Banking Company, has written to the local journals, informing them that it has been ascertained, after much careful investigation, that the late forgery of the £5 notes, of that company has been confined solely to those purporting to have been issued from the Doncaster branch bank. Some of the notes have been paid in Leeds, Bradford, Manchester, Sheffield, and Hull. Five persons are in custody charged with having uttered the notes, but it is suspected that there are other guilty persons still at large.

SHIPWRIGHTS' STRIKE ON THE WEAR.—The shipwrights of Hylton, an important shipbuilding station on the Wear, have been out on strike during the last two or three weeks. The Mayor of Sunderland has tried his good offices, and the following matters in dispute were laid before him at a meeting he had with masters and men last week:—"1. That allowances be given when caulking and upon launching days only. The masters to be fully empowered to caulk their vessels when and how they choose, as is customary in the port of Sunderland. 2. That no workman shall henceforth be allowed to leave his employer's yard until the bell has rung. 3. That each master shall employ such labourers or borers in his yard as he may deem expedient. 4. That the hours of working on Saturday afternoon shall be, in the summer months from 1 o'clock to 5 p.m., and in the winter months from half-past 12 o'clock till 4 p.m., the workmen doing the same on Saturday afternoons with respect to punching, squaring, caulking, &c., as is invariably done in other yards on the river Wear; and that the masters shall have full power to conduct their business in a manner similar to other masters of this port, regardless of 'finer'." An agreement was come to upon all the points but the third, regarding the employment of labourers, which the men would not submit to, and so the matter stands.

AN ADROIT THIEF.—A young man named Thomas Read, said to be very respectably connected, has been committed by the Gloucester magistrates for trial on three charges of robberies committed at hotels at Gloucester and Worcester. The prisoner assumed the character of a commercial traveller. On Sunday evening he appeared at the Angel Inn, Worcester, in that character, engaged a bed, and was shown to his room, where he remained for some ten minutes. In that brief space of time he contrived to pick two locks, and to abstract from a box twelve silver teaspoons, two pairs of tablespoons, and a pair of salt-spoons. Proceeding by railway to Gloucester by the first train next morning, he sold the plate and put up at the Greyhound Commercial Inn, where he dined and paid his bill. Before leaving, however, he picked the lock of a drawer and box, and abstracted £50 in gold, leaving other money in notes in the box. A third robbery, of a great coat, was committed at another inn which he had patronised. He was apprehended at the Gloucester railway station as he was proceeding by a first-class train to Birmingham.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH.—It is given out in Marylebone, Westminster, and the city of London, that Lord Palmerston will be invited to stand for one of the metropolitan boroughs.

LIVERPOOL.—Mr. Cardwell has been canvassing the electors for some time past. The *Liverpool Mail* (Conservative paper) states that there is a report he has accepted the office of Paymaster of the Forces, and adds, that he has not the most remote chance of being elected a second time.

STAFFORD.—Mr. Alderman Sidney, M.P., met his constituents at the Lyceum, Stafford, to explain his conduct in Parliament. He commented in severe terms on the secession of Lord Palmerston, a man of whom the country ought to be proud; and declared that he would maintain in Parliament the right of England to offer a home to the oppressed and the refugees from any country. The alderman having cleared himself from the charge of being a disguised Protectionist, a vote of thanks was passed for his attendance.

THE MONMOUTHSHIRE BOROUGH.—Mr. Crawshaw Bailey, the great iron-master, who has entered the field against Mr. Lindsay, the shipowner, has issued an address, declaring that he would support a protective import duty of 5s. on corn, and is for the repeal of the malt and hop taxes.

EXETER.—The *Western Luminary* states that there are rumours that Mr. Mills, the banker, of London, and Mr. Roit, the Chancery barrister, will be candidates to represent Exeter at the next election. The Conservatives announce Sir Fitzroy Kelly; and Mr. Dittett and Sir John Duckworth are also in the field.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE.—The *Liverpool Albion* announces that Mr. Brown will again offer himself for the southern division, having quite recovered from his illness.

LISBURN.—Sir J. Emerson Tennent was elected last Monday, and addressed the electors at great length. He stated that he spoke the feeling of a very large proportion of the public, and he knew it to be that of members who were favourable to the free-trade measure of 1846, when he expressed the conviction that in the *coup d'état* by which the abolition of the corn-laws was effected the Government of the day proceeded, if not to too extreme a length, at least with too much precipitancy and haste; but a patient and impartial trial was indispensable to arrive at a practical solution as to the question of free trade.

WYMOUTH.—Captain George Stevenson is announced as a candidate at the next general election.

THE REVENUE.

The official returns of the Revenue for the quarter and year ending the 5th inst. exhibit a decrease of income for both periods, as compared with last year, amounting for the quarter to £713,547, and for the year to £527,047.

The items of decrease and increase for the quarter are as follow:—

	DECREASE.	
Customs	£27,193	
Excise	162,950	
Stamps	32,236	
Taxes	737,131	
Property Tax	50,774	
Crown Lands	20,000	
On ordinary revenue	£1,040,284	
Imprest and other moneys	14,701	
On total revenue	£1,504,985	
	INCREASE.	
Post-office	£94,000	
Miscellaneous	10,183	
On ordinary revenue	104,183	
Repayment of advances	237,255	
	£341,438	
Total decrease	£713,547	

For the year, the results, as compared with last year, are respectively as follow:—In the CUSTOMS there is an increase of £146,189; in the EXCISE, of £89,209. In the STAMPS there is a decrease of £162,092; in the ASSESSED TAXES, a decrease of £796,216; and in the PROPERTY TAX, a decrease of £78,114. The Post Office shows the effect of the Great Exhibition, in an increase of £244,000.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

The Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury having certified to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, in pursuance of the Act 10th George 4, c. 27, sec. 1, that the actual surplus revenue of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, beyond the actual expenditure thereof, for the year ended the 10th day of October, 1851, amounted to the sum of £2,979,011 11s. 6d.;

The Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt hereby give notice, that the sum of £744,752 17s. 10d., being one-fourth part of the said surplus of £2,979,011 11s. 6d., will be applied under the provisions of the said act, between the 7th day of January, 1852, and the 5th day of April, 1852, to the following purposes; viz:—

To be applied to the purchase of stock	£ 744,752 17 10
Add interest receivable on account of donations and bequests to be applied to the purchase of stock	3,877 11 10
	£748,630 9 8

A. Y. SPEARMAN, Comptroller-General.

National Debt-office, Jan. 1, 1852.

IMPORTATION OF CORN.—The following are the import corn returns, within the last eleven months, compared with those of 1850:—Wheat, 3,652,998 qrs.; in 1850, 3,406,035 qrs. Oats, 1,166,974 qrs.; in 1850, 1,144,322 qrs. Indian corn, or maize, 1,695,399 qrs.; in 1850, 1,240,057 qrs. Wheat meal, or flour, 4,996,722 qrs.; in 1850, 3,283,478 qrs. Indian corn meal, 9553 qrs.; in 1850, 10,524 qrs.; and in 1849, 101,356 qrs.

THE BRITISH EXPORT TRADE.—On Wednesday the returns of trade and navigation were printed, showing, on the eleven months ending the 5th ult., a great increase in the exportation of British and Irish produce and manufacture from the United Kingdom, compared with the corresponding period in the preceding year. In the eleven months of 1849 the declared value was £54,089,809; for the like period of 1850, £69,400,525; and in the eleven months of 1851, £63,314,272. On the month ending the 5th December in the three years, the declared value of British and Irish produce was respectively £4,691,161, £5,362,319, and £5,188,216.

During the eleven months ended the 5th of December, 2,700,869 pairs of gloves have been imported; in 1850 it was 3,065,273; of ladies' shoes there were 99,700 pairs; in 1850, 105,630. Lace (declared value of), £78,083; in 1850, £76,673; ribbons, 151,015 lb.; in 1850, 269,874 lb.

From the trade returns we learn that 108,365,121 eggs have been imported within the last eleven months, against 98,546,330 in the same period in 1850.

The importation of spirits in the last eleven months has been—Rum, 4,128,729 gallons; ditto, in 1850, 3,851,762. Brandy, 2,408,302; in 1850, 2,723,538. Geneva, 144,556; in 1850, 318,548. Wine, 7,852,167; in 1850, 8,043,321 gallons.

The quantity of guano imported within the last eleven months has been 205,804 tons, in 1850 it was 105,371 tons.

NAVIGATION RETURNS.—According to the official tables printed on Wednesday, there has been an increase in the foreign trade of the country, both in the ships and tonnage entered inwards and cleared outwards. In the eleven months ending the 5th ult., 30,463 vessels employed in the foreign trade of the United Kingdom, of 6,444,043 tonnage, entered inwards; and 28,749 ships, of 6,071,131 tonnage, cleared outwards in the same period. In the like period of the preceding year the number of ships that entered inwards was 29,205, and the tonnage 5,645,550; whilst the vessels that cleared outwards were 27,445, of 5,531,715 tonnage. In the coasting trade of the United Kingdom in eleven months ending the 5th of December, 1849, there were 122,705 entered inwards, of 10,942,915 tonnage; and 138,638 that cleared outwards, of 11,934,840 tonnage. In the like period of 1850 there were 125,451 ships that entered inwards, of 11,506,897 tonnage; and 141,140 ships cleared outwards, of 12,564,170 tonnage; whilst in the eleven months ending the 5th ult. there were 122,211 ships, of 11,271,864 tonnage, entered inwards; and 139,524 ships cleared outwards, of 12,291,592 tonnage.

A letter from Jönköping, in the province of Northern Smaland, in Sweden, dated the 26th ultimo, states that, on the previous day, and while the temperature was at 7 degrees Reaumur below freezing point (16.25 Fahrenheit), three successive shocks of earthquake were felt, which lasted altogether nearly three minutes, accompanied by a rumbling noise. No damage was done, but in some of the houses in the town the furniture was displaced.

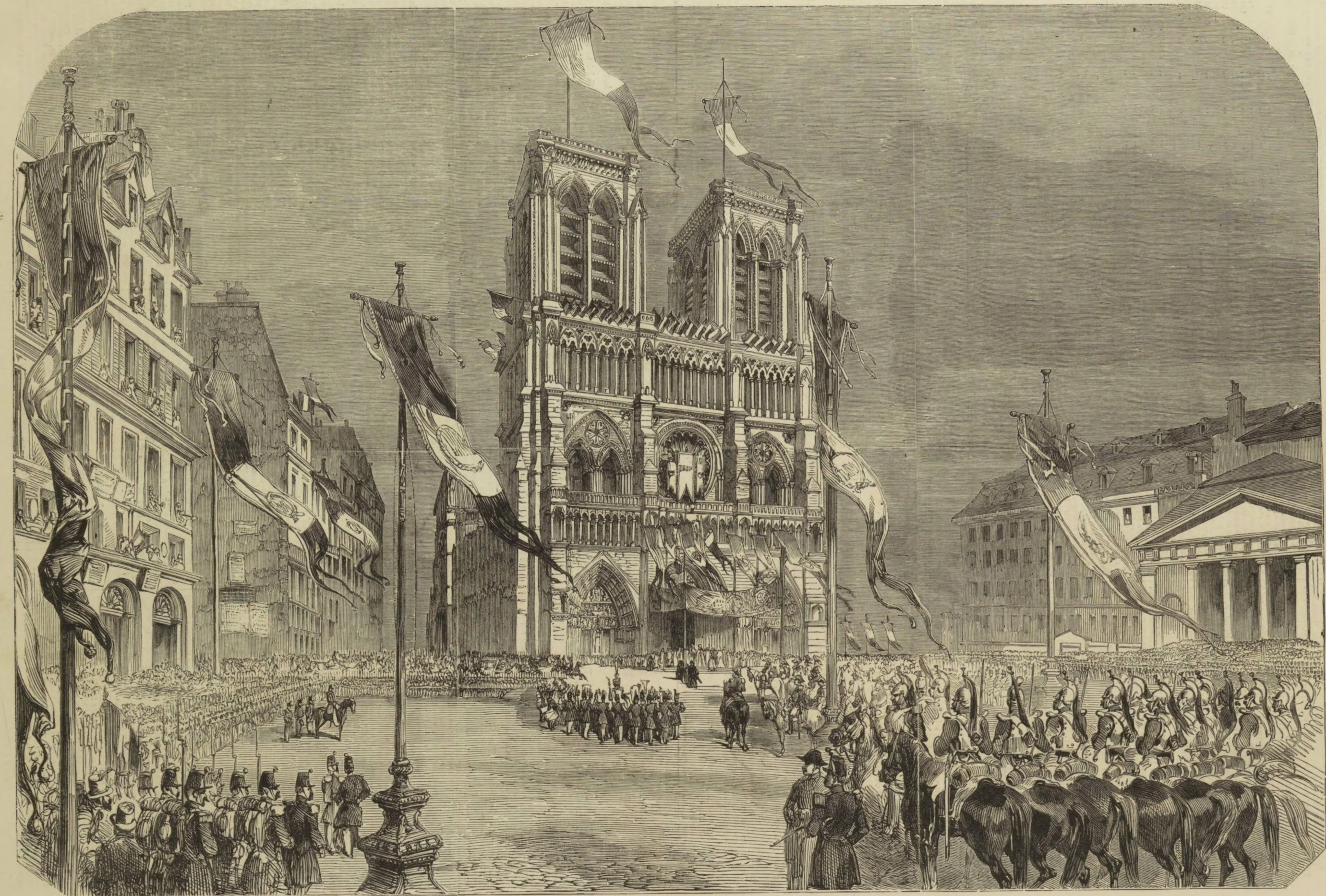
ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—In a month or two there will be an unbroken range of telegraph communication from London to the Land's End. The wires have been completed on the Great Western Railway from Paddington to South, and are being carried to the palace at Windsor. In another week they will be finished up to Reading, and some hundreds of men are now employed in running them on between Reading, Bristol, and Exeter, where they will unite with those already in existence between Exeter and Plymouth. It is also intended to establish the telegraph in connexion with this line over the whole of South Wales.

EGYPTIAN RAILWAY.—Our accounts from Alexandria mention that great commercial activity prevails in that city, and throughout the whole of Egypt. A large quantity of native produce of every kind had been received from Arabia. Preparations have already been made to commence the works of the railway. Abdallah Bey, who is charged with the general inspection of the works, is an Englishman by birth. Persons were arriving in Egypt from every part of the world to seek employment on the line.—*Augsburg Gazette.*

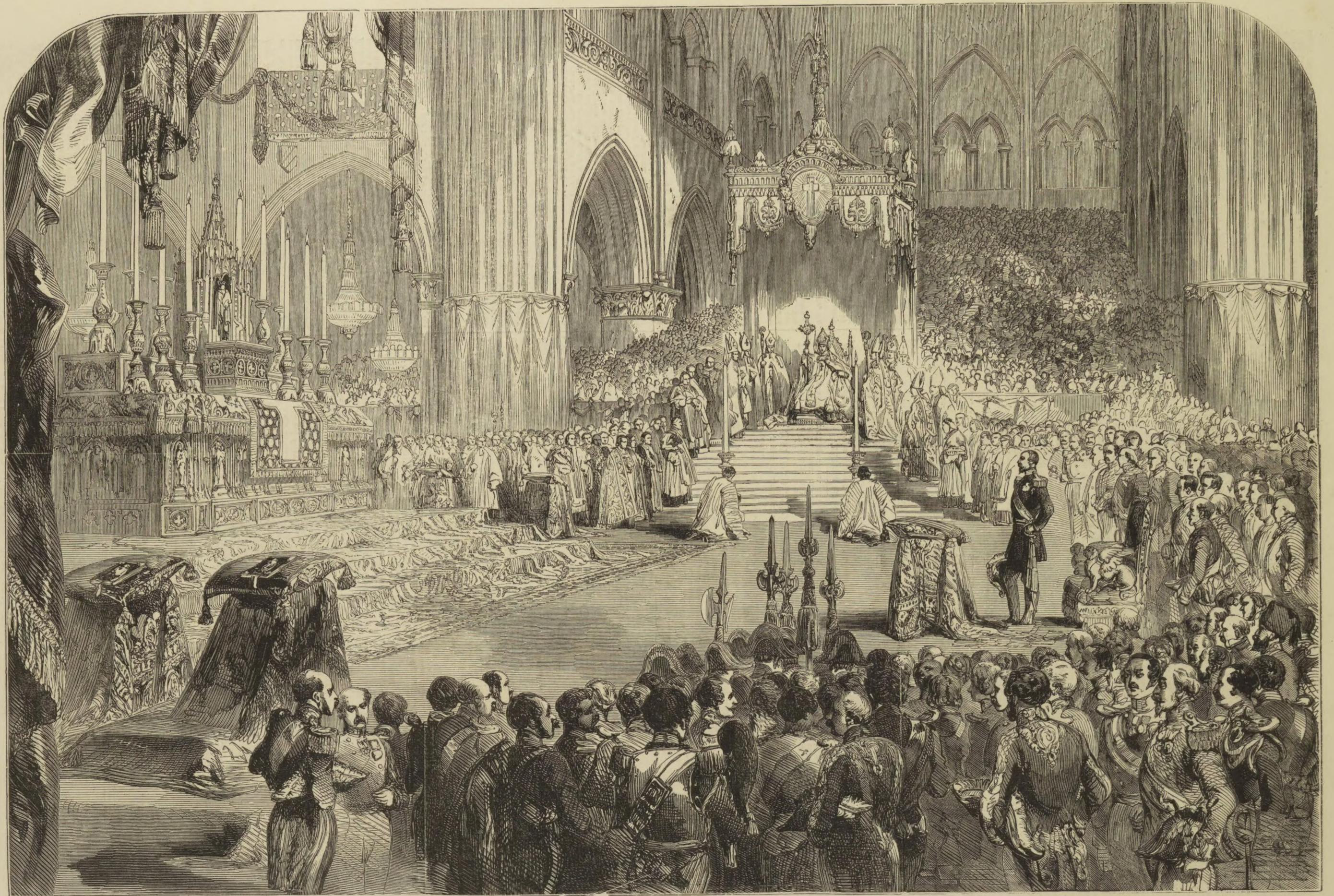
RAILROADS IN RUSSIA AND SWEDEN.—The survey of the line from St. Petersburg to Warsaw has been completed, and the works will commence in the approaching spring. This line will be 400 leagues in length, the longest line existing or contemplated on the continent of Europe. It is expected that it will be finished in 11 or 12 years. It will pass by the town of Lwow, whence a branch will extend to the Russian frontier. A letter from Christiania of the 20th ult. says:—"A small portion of our railway is already terminated, and a trial journey has taken place, at which Mr. Stanz, the Minister of the Interior, Mr. Crowe, English Consul-General, and several members of the Council of State, were present. The locomotive used on the occasion was christened by Mr. Stanz, who gave it the name of the illustrious engineer directing the works, 'Robert Stephenson.'"

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.—AMERICAN MAILS.—Henceforward the British contract mail-packets to North America will sail from Liverpool on every Saturday morning throughout the year, after the arrival at Liverpool of the mail from London of the previous evening. The packets will proceed alternately to the ports of New York and Boston, calling on the voyage to the latter port at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

CORONERS' INQUESTS.—Mr. Edward Herford, coroner of Manchester, has just published a very able pamphlet on the much-mooted subject of the necessity and right of the party charged with murder or manslaughter to be present at the inquest on the body, and of the refusal of the magistrates to let that be done when the accused is in custody on their warrant, for an investigation before them. Mr. Herford, in maintaining that the accused should be also at the inquest, bases his argument on the ancient law of coroner, and certainly brings much light and conviction in favour of his view. His essay proves at least this, that he is fully entitled to have the aid of Parliament to end the discussion. After all that has been said and written, and after all the angry, and consequently unseemly, feeling engendered between magistrates and coroners on this important topic, surely the Legislature should step forward, and at once grant what Mr. Herford fairly insists on, viz. that every man, as of old, should be present there, where he can meet his accusers and defend himself, be the tribunal what it may, and especially if it is that time-honoured one of the coroner, which justly holds high rank among the sanctuaries and the safeguards of the constitution.



INAUGURATION OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.—EXTERIOR OF THE CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME.



INAUGURATION OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.—INTERIOR OF THE CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

INAUGURATION OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.

ON New Year's-day the grand ceremonial of the inauguration of Louis Napoleon as President of the French Republic took place in the Cathedral of Notre Dame, at Paris. We have elsewhere glanced at the long line of similar events of which this ancient edifice has been the scene; but it would be difficult to point out one of these episodes which is more deeply suggestive of the vicissitudes of French political life than the ceremonial of Thursday week.

THE PAGEANT TO THE CATHEDRAL.

The weather was most unpropitious for the occasion, the cold being exceedingly severe, and a thick fog during the whole day, but particularly in the morning, enveloping Paris. The appearance of the open space in front of the Cathedral, or, as it is technically designated, the *parvis*, was exceedingly striking. Down the whole length of the Rue du Parvis tricoloured flags were streaming from lofty masts; further down, in the open space itself, more elevated flagstaffs bore still longer streamers; whilst close to the entrance, the tri-coloured flags were intermingled with others of green silk, powdered with silver stars, green being the colour of the Prince Louis Napoleon, as it was formerly of the Emperor his uncle. Springing from the forefront of the old Cathedral, immediately over the grand entrance, was erected a *velarium*, or awning of crimson velvet, ornamented with gold embroidery, under which the President was to alight from his carriage. On each side floated green flags, bearing the letters "L. N." within a laurel wreath. Beyond them, at each side, trophies were erected, with a shield in the centre, also bearing the same initials, the whole surmounted by a *faisceau* of tricoloured flags, artistically arranged; still further on, at each corner of the front of the building, were lofty hangings of crimson velvet to match the canopy in the centre. In the recess of the grand portal were suspended pieces of ancient tapestry representing sacred subjects. Over the great portal were the figures "7,600,000," and a group of 36 flags; and above these, surmounting the Gallery of Kings, were 65 *drapeaux* of various colours, representing the capital towns of the departments, and the colonies, with their respective arms. The *façade* above was hung with draperies of crimson velvet and gold, the whole profusely sprinkled with golden stars; and at each side of the large rose window of the centre were placed two pointed panels, representing—on the right, Charlemagne and St. Louis; and on the left, Louis XIV. and Napoleon.

At an early hour the troops were marched to their stations with bands playing and banners unfurled; and regiments of the line, Chasseurs, artillery, engineers, Gendarmes Mobile-Republican Guards, and all the other divisions of the new Government, were called into requisition.

As early as eight o'clock, notwithstanding the fog and frost, sight-loving Paris was all afoot to see the spectacle, rolling in a living stream towards the little isle in the Seine whence Paris first sprang, and where its Cathedral now stands.

At ten, the cannon of the Invalides gave the signal for the troops to emerge from their barracks and take up their positions. Ten guns were fired for each million of votes. It is said that eighty were discharged in all. (Centre Illustration at page 29.) The whole route of streets from the Ellysée to Notre Dame along the quays was occupied by a double line of infantry. Each regiment marched, its band ahead; and for the first time since the 2nd of December the drum was heard. Certain streets were reserved for the passage of the carriages of people furnished with tickets to be present at the ceremony.

At a quarter to twelve a buzz gave note of the President's approach. He was preceded by strong detachments of lancers and carabiniers, who, as they arrived, formed on either side the deep Gothic portal of the church. The President was in a coach drawn by four horses, with postillions in green and gold liveries. His two officers d'ordonnance, Edgar Ney and Fleury, rode at either panel; and his escort was much greater than on ordinary occasions. The pageant was altogether most imposing and magnificent.

INTERIOR OF THE CATHEDRAL.

The *coup d'œil* on entering the Cathedral was equally striking and impressive. The pillars were hung with imperial purple, powdered with golden stars, and displaying everywhere the initials "L. N." Between every two pillars was suspended a chandelier of cut glass, containing 45 wax lights; and down the centre aisle three ranges of chandeliers were hung from the fretted roof. In addition to all these lights, smaller chandeliers were to be seen above, at the back of the tribunes, erected high up between the pillars, for the public; and at the same height gilt bronze sconces were placed at each side of the pillars. In the aisle below, lofty candelabra of gilt bronze stood along the sides, containing each about two dozen of lights. The whole number of wax lights burning was 13,000. Velvet draperies, and enormous garlands of foliage and flowers depending from the galleries, richly decorated flags, and the blaze of thousands of wax lights met the eye, and at the extreme end the columns of the sanctuary might be seen covered from base to capital with rich silk brocade of crimson and gold. The altar in the choir, with its glittering ornaments, the benches for the authorities and constituted bodies, the galleries on either side crowded with spectators in full dress, and, above all, and forming the principal feature of the gorgeous scene, the lofty dais, with hangings of crimson and gold, lined with white satin, surmounting the estrade which faced the principal altar, and supporting the seat and *prie-dieu* for Louis Napoleon—seen under this aspect, the ancient Cathedral presented a brilliant but theatrical scene. But above the altar, and midway between it and the canopy, a lofty shrine was erected in the Byzantine style, as it were, protecting the altar and what it bore, a reputed piece of the true cross contained in a silver-gilt receptacle. The ornaments of the altar were all of silver gilt, the candlesticks (14 in number) being five feet high.

The manner in which the building was arranged for the ceremony was alike simple and convenient. The centre aisle was only used on the occasion, the side aisles being employed as passages to the tribunes; those on the right were reserved for the public, and those on the left for the mayors, delegates of the departments, the consuls, and a portion of the public functionaries. The transepts were converted into immense amphitheatres of seats, the right being appropriated to the bar, the diplomatic body, the council of *prud'hommes*, the Institute, the municipal bodies of the *banlieue*, &c.; and the left to the Ministers, the Prefect of the Seine, the Prefect of Police, the academic body, the *juges de paix*, &c. The lower part of the central aisle was exclusively occupied by the officers of the staff, and those appointed from the different regiments of Paris and its vicinity.

In front of the screen before the choir was erected the altar, which was covered with white silk, embroidered with gold. At some distance from it was placed the President's chair and *prie-dieu*. Behind him were seats for the marshals of France and for the officers of the President's household. The clergy were assigned seats on the right, just below the benches appropriated to the bar, &c.

At half-past nine the grand portal was opened, by which the Ministers, the diplomatic corps, the marshals, and officers of the staff entered.

About half past ten the tribunes were nearly all filled, and at eleven every place was occupied. The cold was intense, notwithstanding the heat emitted by the vast number of lights. The number of ladies was not very great, decidedly much less than is generally seen at public spectacles in France.

About a quarter past eleven o'clock the Ministers arrived and took their places on the left, and immediately after a considerable number of general officers. Amongst the first was General de la Rancière, an old cavalry officer of the Emperor, with his left arm wanting; then Generals Lebreton, Cornemuse, Carrellet, Levasseur, Dular Forêt, and a crowd of others; also Admirals Roussin and Mackau. Much interest was excited by the appearance of Marshals Exelmans and Jerome Bonaparte, the ex-King of Westphalia, who entered together, the uncle of the President following his younger fellow-soldier. They both took their seats behind the President's chair of state, this being the first time Jerome Bonaparte had appeared since his letter of 4th December.

At five the ambassadors of the foreign powers began to arrive; they came in grand official costume. One of the latest of the high functionaries who arrived was the Marquis of Normanby. The corps diplomatique was exceedingly numerous, and amongst them was Mr. Reeves, the American Minister, who appeared on this occasion for the first time since the late *coup d'état*. The Pope's Nuncio was also present, and in full sacerdotal dress.

It was very near twelve when the Archbishop of Paris and the clergy moved down the aisle to receive the President of the Republic. Only one bishop was present during the day with the Archbishop, namely, the Bishop of St. Flour, situated in the south of France; the rest of the sacerdotal cortege were composed of canons and curés in splendid canonicals. Just as this body arrived at the grand entrance, the drums beat to arms, the *bourdon*, or great bell of Notre Dame, pealed forth, and Louis Napoleon descended from his carriage. On alighting he was received by the Archbishop, who tendered to him the precious relic, the reputed morsel of the true cross, to kiss; presenting to him the holy water, and then, turning round, led back the procession to the altar. The President followed immediately behind the clergy, having on his right hand the General St. Arnaud, Minister of War; and on his left, General Magnan. He was received with loud cries of "Vive Napoleon!" which he acknowledged by slightly bowing. He wore the uniform of a general of the army, his *cravat* of the Legion of Honour, and the red ribbon as grand cordon of that order.

The President at once proceeded to his seat, the orchestra, organ, and singers thundering forth at the time the "Grand March" of Lessueur, composed for the Emperor's coronation. The whole of the spectators stood up as he passed with his splendid staff; and all, even the military, stood uncovered during his passage from the grand entrance to the chair of state. Several cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" accompanied the otherwise universal one of "Vive Napoleon!"

After the "Grand March" came the "Vivat," and then the "Te Deum." Subsequently was executed, all in the most admirable style, the "Domine saluum fac Napoleonem;" after which the Archbishop gave the benediction, and the ceremony terminated. The clergy then, as before, led the way, and the President departed nearly as he had entered. The orchestra raised a lively march as he departed, the *bourdon* again boomed forth, the cannon of the Invalides thundered out from their iron throats, and, lastly, the vast multitude in the Cathedral shouted "Vive Napoleon!"

The President then entered his carriage, and proceeded to the Tuileries. After the return of the President to the Tuileries, a reception of the public bodies, military officers, National Guards, and delegates of departments took place. Not less than from 7000 to 8000 officers paid their respects, and about half a battalion of the Imperial armies, comprising every arm of the service, saluted Louis Napoleon. Amongst these last were two Mamelukes, one of them a fine old man. The officers of the National Guard were also in great number. While the ceremony was going on, the Place de Carroussel was occupied by several squadrons of cavalry, and the enclosed courts by battalions of infantry. (See the Illustration at page 29.) The ceremony lasted till half-past five, when a grand banquet, of 400 covers, was given as the President's inaugural entertainment; and at night the theatres and public buildings were illuminated.

CEREMONIALS IN THE CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME.

It was in this Cathedral that, in the year 754, the Pope Herens consecrated and anointed King Pepin, his wife, and his two sons. On the 18th of August, 1572, only six days before the massacre of St. Bartholomew, the wedding of the King of Navarre, afterwards Henry the Fourth, with Margaret of Medici, was splendidly celebrated in the same church. On the 27th of October, 1781, a "Te Deum" was chanted at Notre Dame to celebrate the birth of the Dauphin of France; and on the 5th of August, 1789, another "Te Deum" was again chanted, by order of the Archbishop Jaugné, to return thanks for the abolition of the titles and feudal tithes.

On the 8th of November, 1794, the Archbishop of Paris, Gobel, ascended the pulpit of the Cathedral, wherein he solemnly declared he had been, during sixty years, a hypocrite, and that the religion he had professed since his childhood was founded in error and fallacy.

On the 10th of November, 1793, the National Convention received from the Archbishop of Paris a declaration stating that himself, as well as the twelve vicars of the Cathedral, had resigned their duties as Catholic priests. The convention published, without any contest, a decree announcing that the Catholic worship was abolished. By the same decree it was resolved that the worship of Human Reason should take place of the ancient religion. The consequence was, that the church, which had been hitherto called Notre Dame, assumed the name of Temple of Reason.

On the same day, in the nave of the Temple, was erected an artificial mountain, the summit of which was crowned by a temple with this inscription over the principal entrance, "To Philosophy." On the declivity of the hill an altar was also erected, and ornamented with oak leaves and the brilliant torch of Truth. Two sets of young girls dressed in white, adorned with wreaths of oak leaves, and with a torch in their hands, descended the hill. Next, the goddess Reason, personated by a young and handsome lady, dressed in a white robe half covered with a blue mantle, her hair hanging loosely on her shoulders, and a Phrygian red cap on her head, came out of the Temple of Philosophy, and sat down on a grass bench, where she received the homage and oath of the mortals, amidst music. In the evening, the Convention, *en masse*, went to the Temple to chant with the people the hymn to Reason.

On the 30th of June, 1801, was held in the Cathedral a national council, consisting of forty-nine bishops and above eighty deputies of the French clergy. The opening speech was delivered by the Reverend Abbé Grégoire, member of the Legislative Board, and Bishop of Blois.

On the 14th of July, 1801, a high and solemn mass, as well as a "Te Deum," were chanted, to return thanks for the numerous blessings which the French people had received through the Virgin Mary's auspices and intercession.

On the 18th of April, 1802, on Easter-day, was celebrated here the signature of the concordat between the Holy See and the French Government, and the restoration of the Catholic worship in France. Early in the morning a copy of the law restoring religious worship to all the churches in France was posted up in all parts of Paris. At eleven o'clock the three Consuls went to the Church in the same carriage, preceded by horses richly caparisoned, and led by Egyptian Mamelukes. Behind followed the carriage of Madame Bonaparte, who was accompanied by her daughter and her sisters-in-law. The ladies were seated in a splendid *jûbê* erected for the purpose, and which a few days after was destroyed.

The Consuls were received at the principal entrance of the nave by the Archbishop of Paris; they were then introduced, and had their seats under a magnificent canopy erected at the left hand of the altar. After the Gospel, the Archbishop and the Bishops offered up the prayers of the Church for the continuance of the useful and illustrious lives of the French Consuls. Subsequently they took their oath, in the presence of Napoleon, the First Consul. Finally the Legate of the Pope chanted a "Te Deum," the music of which, composed by Lasiello, was splendidly executed by two bands, conducted by both Cherubini and Mehul. Miss Le Brun, daughter of the Prefect of the Palace, and Madame Savary, wife of an aide-de-camp of the First Consul, made a collection, the amount of which was no less than 700 louis d'or. The ceremony lasted three hours, during which time salutes were fired without any intermission, and a merry peal from the bells of Notre Dame announced the happy news to the three hundred parishes of the capital.

When Napoleon Bonaparte was proclaimed Emperor, and his coronation by the Pope was decided on, he resolved to make the ceremony as gorgeous and magnificent as possible. Notre Dame was again chosen for the solemnity, when some important alterations were made within and without the edifice. The vestry was pulled down outside, as well as several private houses which obstructed the north entrance of the Church; and portions of the beautiful *façade*, which for many centuries had remained in obscurity, were then discovered.

On the 1st of December, 1804, the ceremony of the coronation, in spite of the severe cold, was performed, with the greatest magnificence. At ten o'clock both Pope Pius VII. and the Emperor set out from the Palace of the Tuileries for the Cathedral. The pageant, though theatrical, was not without a certain majestic effect. The grand officers of the Empire, loaded with decorations, carried the ensigns and imperial garments, the sceptre, the hand of Justice, the sword and crown of Charlemagne. Both the Emperor and Empress were consecrated and anointed by the Pope; but Napoleon placed himself the crown on his head.

Of all the ceremonials which had taken place in Notre Dame, the coronation of Napoleon was, without doubt, the most gorgeous and solemn. The gloom of the Cathedral, with its Gothic arches and its richly coloured glass; the throne erected near the altar; the ancient walls covered with magnificent tapestries; all the great officers of the Empire; the deputies of all the cities of France; thousands of feathers from the hats of the senators, state councillors, tribunes, &c.; the Chancery and Justice Courts, with their rich yet severe costumes; the military uniforms worn by a host of the most illustrious generals in the French army; the clergy in their robes; thousands of young and beautiful ladies in the most elegant fashion, forming lines up the first floor both of the nave and the choir; finally, the Holy Father and the Emperor, wearing the ensigns of their high dignities, presented a *coup d'œil* of which it is difficult to form an idea.

En passant, we may note that the wedding of the Duke of Berry with the Princess of Naples was celebrated on the 17th of June, 1816, in Notre Dame; and on the 2nd of May, 1841, the Count of Paris, grandson of Louis Philippe, was christened in the same place.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The sporting fixtures for the coming week are confined to a steeple-chase at Oundle on Tuesday, and to three coursing meetings; viz. Letcomb Bowers and Hewell on Wednesday, and Ridgway on the two following days.

TATTERSALL'S.

Monday.—There was a better market than usual, and a fair amount of business for the season at the undermentioned prices:—

25 to 1 agst Elthron	30 to 1 agst Kato	33 to 1 agst Royalty
30 to 1 agst Wrynecolt	30 to 1 agst Joe Miller	33 to 1 agst Followme Lads
	40 to 1 agst the Ban	
40 to 1 agst Black Doctor	40 to 1 agst Kingleader	50 to 1 agst Nancy
100 to 1 agst My Fancy (t)	100 to 1 agst Exeter (t)	
17 to 1 agst Claverhouse	20 to 1 agst Kingston	25 to 1 agst Orello
	30 to 1 agst Filius	

Thursday.—The betting this afternoon, although in moderate amount, and with little influence on the prices, admits of a tolerably full quotation:—

20 to 1 agst Elthron	30 to 1 agst Achmet	33 to 1 agst Kick-up-the-
25 to 1 agst Wrynecolt	30 to 1 agst Royalty	Dust
30 to 1 agst Landgrave	33 to 1 agst Miss Ann	40 to 1 agst the Ban
1000 to 15 agst Le Jull (t)	1000 to 15 agst Cock-crow (t)	1000 to 10 agst Exeter (t)
5 to 1 agst Hobbie Noble (t)	25 to 1 agst Elcot (t)	50 to 1 agst Barbarian
20 to 1 agst Kingston (t)	33 to 1 agst Homebrewed	

BOAT RACE FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE THAMES.—A match was made on Monday night between Robert Coombes, the well-known champion of the Thames, and Thomas Cole, of Chelsea, who aspires to that title. The race is to be for £200 a side, and is to take place on the 26th of May next, over the usual course, from Putney to Mortlake.

WRESTLING FOR A BOAR'S HEAD.—By ancient charter or usage in Hornchurch, a boar's head, that noble dish amongst our ancestors, is wrestled for in the field adjoining the church, in the afternoon of Christmas-day, a boar, the property of the parish, being slaughtered for the purpose; and this year a large number of persons assembled to witness the sport. The boar's head, elevated on a pole, and decorated with ribbons, was brought into the ring, which six competitors entered, and, after a good display of strength and agility, the prize was awarded. If the head is taken by a champion out of the parish, it is said the charter is lost.—*Chelmsford Chronicle*.

THE NEW BRIDGE ACROSS THE THAMES.—The workmen engaged in sinking the foundation of the new bridge over the Thames, between Ranelagh-wharf and the Red-house, Battersea, are making rapid progress. Already the piles for the piers of the centre span have been nearly all driven, and the cofferdams completed. The waste ground to the eastward of the garden belonging to Chelsea Hospital, and which at one time formed a portion of the famed Ranelagh-gardens, but which is now little better than a morass, is being filled in and sub-drained by means of large pipes and sewers. The process has been found necessary in order to form the approaches to the new bridge. The main street leading from the bridge on the Middlesex side will terminate in the vicinity of Eaton-square, and the buildings to be erected along the line of street are to be of the second class, and the exteriors finished in a similar style to all those lately built on the Marquis of Westminster's property at Chelsea and Pimlico.

The oration founded in honour of the celebrated John Hunter, and which is delivered annually at the Royal College of Surgeons, will take place this year on the 14th of February. Mr. Luke, one of the vice-presidents of the Royal College, and surgeon of the London Hospital, will be the orator on the occasion.

The Duke d'Aumale, who came to England to see his mother, Queen Marie Amelie, has returned to Naples.

MUSIC.

LONDON THURSDAY CONCERTS.

The second of the series took place at Exeter-hall on Thursday night, under the direction of Mr. T. H. Severn. The solo instrumentalists were Miss Goddard, the accomplished pianiste, who played Thalberg's "Don Pasquale" serenade, and an andante and rondo capriccioso by Mendelssohn; and Mr. Richardson, who performed his "Rule Britannia" variations. The vocalists were Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Pyne, Miss Binckes, Mr. Swift, Herr Jonghmanns, Mr. C. Cotton, and Mr. Whitworth. The madrigals in the scheme were Wilbye's "Sweet honey-sucking Bees," and "Flora gave me fairest flowers" (1598); Dowland's "Awake, sweet love" (1597); Edwards' "In going to my lonesome bed" (1560); and Morley's "Now is the month of Maying" (1595). Lord Mornington's glee, "Here in cool grove;" Dr. Cooke's glee, "Hand in hand;" and T. Attwood's t. io, "Hark! the curfew's solemn sound," were included in the programme.

MUSICAL EVENTS.

The Bach Society had a monthly meeting last Monday, for trial of the vocal music of J. S. Bach, under the direction of Mr. Sterndale Bennett. The *soirées musicales* of the "Réunion des Arts" recommenced on Wednesday.

There was an evening concert at the Sussex Hall, in the City, on Wednesday, at which Miss Doby, Miss Pyne, Miss E. Jacobs, Messrs. Swift, Whitworth, and Herr Jonghmanns were the vocalists; and Miss Kate Loder, Mr. Richardson, and M. Sainton were the instrumentalists.

Herr Sommer, with the Hungarian band, gave concerts on Monday morning and evening, and on Tuesday night, at Willis's Rooms; on Wednesday, at Greenwich; and on Thursday night commenced a series at St. Martin's Hall.

The second concert in aid of the building fund of the Marylebone Institution took place on Thursday night, under the direction of Mr. W. Macfarren. The vocalists were the Misses Birch, Poole, Bassano; Messrs. Harrison, T. Williams, and Lawler; and the instrumentalists, Messrs. G. and J. Case (concertina), Mrs. J. Macfarren, Miss Rushforth, and Mr. W. Holmes (pianoforte).

On Monday afternoon the prize of ten guineas for the best "original" quadrille was awarded by the majority of a jury of amateurs and professors, including the names of Sir Henry Webb, Captain de Bathe, Mr. Albert Smith, Mr. Charles Kenny, Mr. Sams, Mr. Levi, Mr. Arthur Chappell, Mr. C. L. Grünelsen, Mr. Willert Beale, Mr. V. Morris, Mr. H. Mayhew, M. Rousselot, M. Nadaud, Mr. Pratten, Mr. Godfrey, &c., to Mr. J. R. Tutton. The other competitors were Mr. C. Coote, Mr. F. G. Tinney, Mr. J. G. Calcott, Mr. W. H. Montgomery, and Mr. Henri Lanrent. The conditions of the contest were, that the quadrille should be preceded by an introduction, and that all the subjects should be distinct and original melodies. Now, we cannot state that any one of the quadrilles, including the successful one, fairly fulfilled the second condition. There was much cleverness and brilliancy, but a decidedly original work did not strike the ear. In fancy, the composition marked A was the most striking; in style, that with the letter F was the most forcible, the introduction being admirable; in brilliancy, the letter S had strong claims; but the piquancy of the quadrille B (the winner) carried the day, and then it had the good fortune to be played last. Mr. Lanrent has announced a similar prize for the best waltz. He conducted the performance of the six trial quadrilles, with his excellent orchestra, with remarkable spirit and precision. The vote of the jury was taken by ballot, and the proceedings were so regulated that the audience knew nothing of the composers whose works were executed, and only were made acquainted with the name of the winner of the prize by the opening of the envelope B, each quadrille having been sent in sealed, and marked only by a letter.

Next Tuesday, Mr. Aguilar, the pianist and composer, will commence a series of *soirées classiques*.

On Thursday the anniversary of the ancient Madrigal Society will be celebrated at Freemasons' Hall; Lord Saltoun in the chair.

Madame Oury, the accomplished pianiste, gave a *matinée musicale* last Monday, at the residence of Lady Vassal Webster, Bryan House, Brighton, assisted by M. Demlinck, violoncello; M. Oury, violin; Madame Garcia and Herr Müller, vocalists.

Mlle. Elise Krinitz, the pianiste, has arrived in town from Paris, and Herr Pauer from Vienna.

THE THEATRES.

DRURY LANE.

Mr. Bunn has announced that Miss Glyn will shortly appear in "her popular character of Cleopatra." In these days, when smaller theatres live on their attention to the *mise en scène*, and even the saloons are distinguished by the costliness of their accessories, it is to be hoped that capital with this tragedy will be placed on the stage, as the surest way of securing the requisite income from the pit. The tragedy of "Antony and Cleopatra," with Miss Glyn as the heroine, if adequately placed on the boards, would command full houses for half a century of nights. We trust that the clever manager will see this matter in the correct light, and do justice to himself and the wonderful drama he is about to produce.

PUNCH'S PLAYHOUSE.

After an absence of eight years, Mrs. Charles Selby has reappeared on the stage, and selected the little Strand Theatre as the scene of her renewed efforts. A new piece has been provided for her, written by Mr. Selby, entitled "An Original Dramatic Sketch," in which Mrs. Selby undertakes the character of a factotum lady, and performs it with singular point and effect. Mrs. General Hyderabad is of the military order of heroines, and speaks hurricanes. Rendered despot by long Eastern habits, she is Asiatically despotic, and not only talks but sings of battle and victory. Here, at all events, is a dashing part; and the piece in itself is not without considerable merit and right dramatic spirit.

SURREY.

Mr. Creswick, on Monday, assumed the part of *Don César de Bazan*, to which he gave a new reading, elevating the *vaudeville* into the hero with great success. The character, with this modified interpretation, well suits his style of acting.

THE MARIONETTES, ADELAIDE-STREET.—The rehearsal of the performance of these *artistes*, entirely new to the metropolis, promises abundant amusement. Exhibitions of mechanical figures have been sufficiently common; but these have been merely puppets, worked with comparatively little skill, and scarcely approaching the combination of the mechanical and intellectual, which the Marionettes present, with the most tasteful accessories of scenery and costume. These ingenious mimics, in their elegant theatre, can scarcely fail to become popular.

COMMON SENSE ON WHEELS.—A little "common sense on wheels" has travelled to us lately from Munich. A lady gives us a description of a new hackney-coach which has been recently set up in that city:—"The new droshky," she says, "is a beautiful little carriage which holds two persons, and has, altogether, a very elegant appearance. You pay, for two persons, twelve kreuzers, or fourpence per hour. There is a printed tariff fastened up in each vehicle; and the drivers are so civil that it is quite a pleasure to pay them. They give you change so naturally that I cannot get over my astonishment. I only wish our cabmen were ever likely to become such respectable individuals. There are various rules attached to the tariff. One is, that each droshky, after dark, must have a couple of lamps, for the use of which the passenger must pay two kreuzers (hardly more than a halfpenny) per quarter of an hour. After midnight the fare is doubled."—*Dickens's Household Words*.

To the frequenters of the "Corner" it were almost superfluous to mention that he is a constant attendant. He has several volumes of "catalogues," with the prices the horses have brought set down in the margins, and has a rare knack at recognising old friends, altered, disguised, or disguised as they may be. "I've seen that tip before," he will say with a knowing shake of the head, as some weeb-gone devil goes, best leg foremost, up to the hammer; or, "What! is that old beast back? why he's here every day." No man can impose upon Soapy with a horse. He can detect the rough-coated plainibilities of the strawy equally with the metamorphosis of the clipper or slogger. His practised eye is not to be imposed upon either by the blandishments of the bank-tail, or the beaverments of the dock. Tattersall will hail him from his rostrum with, "Here's a horse that will suit you, Mr. Sponge! cheap, good, and handsome—come and buy him." But it is needless describing him here, for every out-of-place groom and dog-stealer's man knows him by sight.—From Mr. *Sponge's Sporting Tour*, No. 1, by the Author of "Handley Cross," illustrated by John Leech: full of "jauks and jollities," as its paternity led us to expect.

BUG DESTROYER.—"In the Austrian department of the Great Exhibition might have been seen a preparation which is said to be used largely in the hospitals of Vienna for the purpose of destroying bugs and their eggs. It is protected by the Imperial privilege, which prevents its being pirated, in a similar manner as the patent laws do in England. It is an ethereal solution of camphor. The proprietor cautions those who use it against introducing a lighted candle into the room where it has been applied, until the ethereal vapour has been expelled. By means of a brush, the crevices of beds, and other parts supposed to contain the insect or its eggs, are to be painted with the solution."—*Annals of Pharmacy and Practical Chemistry*.

THE LATE MR. TURNER, R.A.—We mentioned, last week, that Mr. Turner died in an obscure lodging in Chelsea, but we purposely omitted to state that he was living at Chelsea under an assumed name. The story is as follows:—He loved retirement and entertained a peculiar dislike to having his lodgings known—sharing, with all his immense wealth, the feeling of the poorest bankrupt. He saw lodgings to his liking, asked the price, found them cheap, and that was quite as much to his liking. But the landlady wanted a reference. "I will buy your house outright, my good woman," was the reply somewhat angrily. Then an agreement was wanted—met by an exhibition of bank notes and sovereigns, and an offer to pay in advance—an offer which proved of course perfectly satisfactory. The artist's difficulties were not, however, yet over. The landlady wanted her lodger's name, "In case any gentleman should call." This was a worse dilemma. "Name, name," he muttered to himself in this usual gruff manner. "What is your name?" "My name is Mrs. Brook." "Oh," was the reply, "then I am Mr. Brook;" and as a "Mr. Brook" Turner died at Chelsea.—*Athenaeum*.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Paris *Patrie* publishes an official note, contradicting a statement of the *Constitutionnel*, to the effect that the President of the Republic had received an autograph letter from the Emperor of Russia, congratulating him on the success of the grand act of the 2d of December. The note adds that the President has received neither note nor autograph letter from the Emperor of Russia.

A decree of the French Government announces that the gold, silver, and copper coin of France shall bear in front the effigy of the President, with the words "Louis Napoleon Bonaparte." On the reverse are to be engraved the words "République Française," and round the edge "Dieu Protège la France."

The French Minister of Marine has informed the naval authorities at Rochefort that a number of liberated convicts, and of persons belonging to secret societies, who were arrested at Paris, are now on their way to that port. They are to be embarked on board the steamer *Mogador*, which is to proceed direct to Cayenne.

During the late insurrection in the Var, in France, a crime was committed which is worthy of 1793. The corporal of the *gendarmérie* at Cuers, who had been taken prisoner by the insurgents, was stabbed in eight or ten places, and was afterwards placed before a slow fire, while a man kept beating a drum in order to drown the cries of the victim. All the murderers are now in prison.

M. Dupin, late President of the National Assembly, has given in his full adhesion to the act of the 2d of December. He was received on Saturday last at two o'clock by the President of the Republic, and, as Procureur-General of the High Court of Cassation, has fully acquiesced in the new order of things.

M. Berger, the Prefect of the Seine, gave last Saturday night a magnificent ball at the Hôtel de Ville, at Paris. It was attended by upwards of 5000 persons. The delegates from the departments and English strangers were especially amazed at the gorgeousness of the Hôtel de Ville, and the vast extent of its superb salons. The fête was kept up till a late hour.

The contract for the erection of the electric telegraph between Dublin and Cork is said to be at the rate of £200 per mile.

The subscription in aid of the families of the sufferers by the late fearful explosion at Rawmarsh progresses satisfactorily. It has already reached between £700 and £800, and it is expected to be greatly increased.

The official return of the amount of emigration from the port of Limerick from the 1st of January, 1851, to the 31st of December in the same year, shows an aggregate of 11,743. Of these, 5037 had become settlers in the United States, and 6746 had continued subjects of the British empire, as settlers in the Canadas.

By the returns of the secretary of the Royal Society for the Protection of Life from Fire, it appears the fire-escape stations have been increased to 31, and that, during the past year, 249 fires have been attended by their men and fire-escapes, and that they were instrumental in rescuing 24 persons at nine different fires.

By the *Bank of England*, arrived at Calcutta, advices from Sydney have been received two days later than those previously published; viz. to the 20th September. On the 17th the *Anna Mary* sailed for London with £55,500 in gold, and on the 19th the *Rajah of Sarawak* had arrived from London.

The tariff as fixed by the French Government for the despatch by the electric telegraph of twenty words, including the name of the party sending and sent to, is at the rate of 48.80c. for the distance between Paris and Amiens, and in proportion for a greater distance.

Mr. Roebuck, M.P., is labouring under rather severe indisposition. Athenry, county Galway, Ireland, having been constituted a post town, the office there was opened for the issue and payment of money orders on the 6th inst.

Mr. Cornwall Lewis has been directed by the Lords of the Treasury to authorize the Commissioners of Customs to place foreign vinegar under the same regulations as wine, with respect to allowances for natural waste, in cases where the vinegar may be exported, and thereby relieve the parties from the trouble and expense of passing entries for payment of trifling sums on account of such deficiencies.

The number of bills deposited in the private bill office for consideration during the present session is 253, being 37 more than were deposited last year, when 216 were entered for consideration.

A letter from Vienna, of the 27th ult. (says the *Presse*), states that Louis Napoleon, in a letter addressed to the Emperor of Austria, requests him to consent to have the mortal remains of the Duke de Reichstadt, now lying at Vienna, near those of his mother Maria Louisa, in the vaults of the Capucins, transported to Paris.

The *Cologne Gazette* states that numerous domiciliary visits have been lately made at the residences of workmen at Munich and at Nuremberg.

On the 26th ult. General Aupick, the French Ambassador, gave a grand banquet in Madrid, at which all the persons who had taken any part in the drawing up the treaty on literary property between France and Spain were present.

The Russian Government are taking contracts for iron in the English markets for the construction of the Vistula and other Royal railroad bridges.

A letter from St. Petersburg states that the recruiting for the army, which commenced on the 1st of September last, has just concluded. One man out of every 1000 male inhabitants in the eleven provinces mentioned in the ukase has been taken. The Russian army is composed as follows:—Infantry, 640,388 men; cavalry, 101,690; artillery, 42,908; engineers, waggon train, &c., 25,225; total, 810,795 men.

Dog-stealing, as in London, has become a regular business in Paris, and it is a profitable one, from the rewards offered for the recovery of missing animals. Several dogs, belonging to persons who give liberal rewards, are repeatedly stolen, and the abuse has risen to such a height that the police have taken measures to put it down.

The Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury have authorised the admission, duty free, of stringy bark wood and red and blue gum wood, imported for the purpose of ship-building in this country.

The solitary survivor of the *Royal George* is now living at St. George's, Gloucestershire. His name is Abel Hibbs, aged 91. Until lately he was a hale old man, but is now bedridden, and his only support is from the poor-rate.

The *Croce di Savoia* of the 30th ult. states that the Emperor of Russia would probably spend part of the winter at Venice.

Upwards of five hundred locomotives were employed on the various metropolitan lines to convey the cattle to the Christmas cattle-show and market.

The Judge of the Birkenhead County Court lately decided that postage stamps sent to a witness with a subpoena did not form a payment on which he could enforce attendance.

The Board of Trade have given directions for the officers of Customs not to prevent vessels from clearing or proceeding to sea by reason of their boats not being in accordance with the statutory scale required, until the 1st March next, after which time the provisions of the act are to be strictly enforced in this as well as in other respects.

The *Prussian Gazette* of the 3d quotes letters from Cairo, announcing the arrival there of the Duke of Leuchtenberg. It adds that the Viceroy has placed a magnificent steamer at his disposal, to enable him to visit Upper Egypt.

A letter from Brussels, 2d instant, mentions the arrival in that city of the Duke de Guiche, the French Minister Plenipotentiary at Cassel. Madame Dorne, Madame Thiers, and Mlle. Dorne, accompanied by M. Mignet, had also arrived there.

Two of the most formidable of the banditti in Corsica have just had a termination put to their guilty career; one, named Giustiniani, by the *gendarmérie* of Monte, in the *arondissement* of Bastia, and the other, Plani Xavier, by those of Sarrola, near Ajaccio.

The *Gazette de France*, in its summary of foreign news, states that the Parliament of the Ionian Islands has been dissolved by the "Lord Mayor." Mrs. Talvi, author of the "Researches relative to Ossian," and translator of Serbian popular songs, is staying at Berlin.

Professor Dehn, inspector at the musical section of the Berlin Royal Library, has brought with him from the old Silesian libraries one of the rare and precious metal mirrors which have given rise to the supposition that the Daguerrotypes were known in the seventeenth century.

On the 2d inst. the King of Prussia gave a brilliant hunting party at Potsdam, at which their Royal Highnesses the Princes and several persons of the Court assisted.

The long-anticipated article in the *Quarterly Review* on "Junius" has appeared. The reviewer names Mr. Thomas Lyttelton, only son of the first Lord Lyttelton, as the real Simon Pure. Resentment at the treatment of Lord Temple and Lord Lyttelton, when Pitt was forming his Cabinet, after the dismissal of the Rockingham Ministry, is ascribed as the incentive of Thomas Lyttelton, who was then in his 24th year, to write in the *Public Advertiser* under the famous signature of "Junius."

A new glass manufactory has just been established at Venice, in which those peculiar processes which once rendered the glass of that city so celebrated are to be revived and combined with the improvements suggested by modern science. The number of workmen it employs at present is 200.

The Treviso and Udine Railway (Lombardo-Venetian provinces) is to be commenced in the month of March. It is to pass by Sacile instead of Mottos. Another great improvement is contemplated at Udine, viz. the lighting of the town by gas. The coal for the purpose is to be imported from Dalmatia.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany has sent to Count Felix Baciocchi, orderly officer to Prince Louis Napoleon, the cross of commander of the Order of St. Joseph.

The *Messaggero* of Modena states that a new telegraphic line has been established, connecting the Imperial frontier town Lusara with Guastalla, Reggio, and Modena.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha's visit to Vienna is caused by the necessity of his appearing as executor at the opening of the will of the late Duke of Coburg-Cohary.

Karasinski, who had been condemned to twenty years' hard labour in Siberia for a political offence, has had his sentence commuted on the intervention of the Prince of Warsaw, but he is to remain all his life in that country.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A S. High Wycombe.—Impossible, if Black for his first move play P to K B 5th. BRISTOLIAN.—You are correct, and win. Notwithstanding the adoption of tactics which every true chess-player condemns, Mr. Williams was beaten a majority of games by every competitor in the Tournament contests (excepting only Mr. Mucklow) with whom he came in contact.

W B Leamington; J H C. Cork.—It shall appear among our Chess Enigmas. W D W.—They are much too simple. 2. "The Handbook" and "Chess-player's Companion," published by Bohn. C and R, St. Ives.—Obvious at a glance. What a misnomer to call such a thing a "Chess Problem!"

J D W.—Under the circumstances mentioned, the game is drawn. F W D.—The moment a Pawn reaches the eighth square he becomes a capital piece. J G H.—The first is childish. The second can be solved in two moves less than you stipulate. LUCIAN.—The position is a very old one, but the conditions seem new. We shall look at it again.

R B. of Ashford.—The last batch of problems must have miscarried. Send copies of them on plain diagrams. SOPHIA.—There is certainly a resemblance between the two enigmas; but we believe it to be quite an accidental one.

GRECO.—We have not space at this moment for the announcement of the Chess Problem Prizes which are in contemplation; you will find the particulars in the January number of the *Chess-player's Chronicle*; but it is highly creditable to the Calcutta Chess Club that the first and capital for this praiseworthy object, as well as the Chess Tournament, was derived from that spirit and society.

D D.—The variation of the Bishop's Gambit seems inexhaustible. "The Final Results" of Major Jaenisch's laborious Analysis have scarcely been published, when we are apprised that, in conjunction with M. Petroff, he is preparing a few more last words on the same theme, for the instruction and amusement of the Chess fraternity.

GEORGE.—Possibly next week, but we dare not pledge ourselves. GANGES.—Moheschunder Bonnerjee is a Brahmin of considerable chess skill, engaged at an annual salary to play in the Calcutta Chess Club. We are sorry to hear, through a recent communication from Mr. Cochrane, that indisposition has for some time incapacitated Moheschunder from pursuing the game.

CHIRON.—1. Mr. Andersen is not a slow player, and is quite above the shabby artifices of prolonging a hopeless contest merely to exhaust his opponent. 2. There are two chess clubs at Cambridge, and two also at Oxford. 3. Mr. Sen has returned to Pesth: whether his countryman, Grimm, has left Aleppo, we cannot inform you. M P.—Prince Albert has become patron of the Polytechnic Institution, of which the St. George's Chess Club is a part. Your second inquiry is unintelligible.

CAVALIER.—Niev id's "La Supériorité du Jeu des Echecs, &c." In reply to a correspondent, a few months since, we stated that this little work was no longer procurable. Mr. Von Heydebrandt de Laza has just informed us that a new edition of the French text, with the tables, is prepared by Mr. H. Cramling, bookseller of the Hague. Only a limited number of copies (three shillings each) will be issued, and it is therefore desirable that amateurs who wish to obtain the book should forward their names to the publisher without delay.

DEARVOX.—The Black Pawn in Judo's, Exempla, 706, stands at Q R 4th. BEIDPORT.—You have the solution next week. PENRODDOCK.—"The Analysis Nouvelle," Major Jaenisch's famous Treatise on Chess Openings, may still be obtained, we believe. Apply to Williams and Norgate, the foreign booksellers. 2. Through the same channel you can, no doubt, procure the great German work by Von Bilguer and Von Heydebrandt, called the "Handbuch des Schachspiels."

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 414 by S. B. Touchstone, Magnet, Firefly, E. G. Yankee, G. T. M. G. C. P. B. G. P. M. P. B. and Jack of Shrewsbury, are correct. SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 415 by Morcor, Judo, Doreon, M. P. Della, Ardona, Phosphor, L. S. D. F. R. S. Rev. C. L. Mitre, Crozier, Orion, R. R. Ed. Immermore, G. G. P. F. P. of Bury, Llanelli, M. B. R. Jack of Shrewsbury, St. Edmund, R. J. of Loughor, are correct. SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS by R. D. M. R. R. Doreon, Sophia, St. Edmund, are correct. All others are wrong.

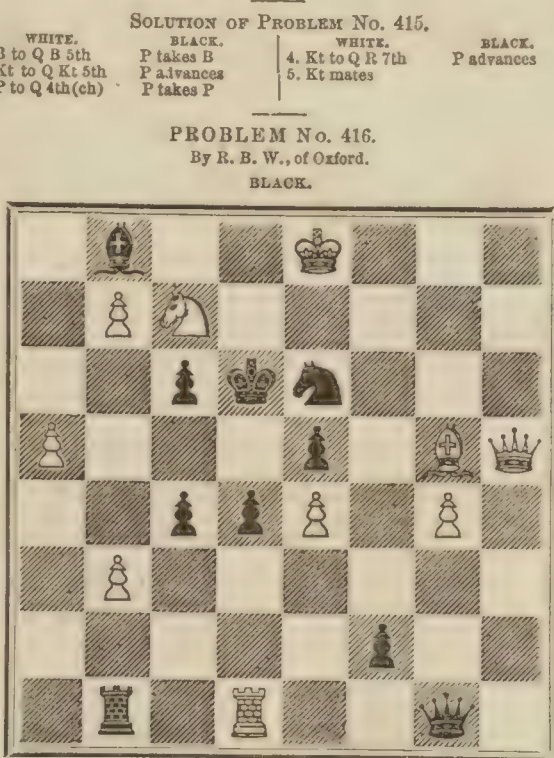
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 414. WHITE. 1. Kt to K 5th (ch) 2. K to K R 5th (ch) 3. K to K 5th. BLACK. 1. K to R 3d 2. B takes R 3. Kt to Q 6th. WHITE. 4. K takes B 5. Kt mates at K B 7th. BLACK. Kt must move.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 415. WHITE. 1. B to Q 5th 2. Kt to Q Kt 5th 3. P to Q 4th (ch). BLACK. 1. P takes B 2. P advances 3. P takes P. WHITE. 4. Kt to Q R 7th 5. Kt mates. BLACK. P advances.

PROBLEM No. 416.

By R. B. W., of Oxford.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, playing first, gives mate in five moves.

CHESS IN THE PROVINCES.

Mr. LOWENTHAL gives the Pawn and two moves to one of the best players of Reading.

(Remove Black's K B Pawn from the Board.)

WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. L.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. L.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3d	12. Kt to B 6th (ch)	K to B 2d
2. P to Q 4th	P to K 3d	13. Kt takes B	B to K 3d
3. B to Q 3d	Q to K 2d	14. Kt takes Q P	Kt takes Kt
4. Kt to K B 3d	P to Q 4th	15. B to K 5th	Q Kt to Q 2d
5. P takes P (a)	P takes P (dis. ch)	16. P to Q B 4th	K Kt to K B 3d
6. Kt to K 5th	Kt to K B 3d	17. P to K B 4th	Kt takes B
7. Castles	Q to her 3d	18. K B P takes Kt	Q takes P (ch)
8. B to K B 4th	Q to her Kt 3d	19. R to B 2d (e)	B to K Kt 3th
9. K to K 2d	B to K 2d	20. Q to her B 2d	Q takes K P
10. B to K Kt 6th (ch)	K to B sq	21. Q takes R	Q to K 8th
(b)		22. R to K B sq	Q takes R (ch)
11. B takes K R P (c)	R takes B (d)	23. K takes Q	Kt takes Q

And Black wins.

(a) The chief strength of the attack in the Pawn and two moves consists in locking up the adversary's forces. White, by this move, at once gives his adversary as much freedom as he possesses himself.

(b) This is a very ingenious move. He should have been content with having deprived his adversary of his privilege of casting, and retired his Bishop.

(c) The more efficacious play is surely, to take the Bishop with the Kt. White has then little else to do, but resign the contest.

(d) If K to R sq. Black can win his Queen.

CHESS IN INDIA.

Game between Mr. COCHRANE and the Brahmin MOHESCHUNDER BONNERJEE. (Petroff's Defence to the Kt's Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (M. B.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (M. B.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	21. P to K B 5th	Kt to K B 3d
2. Kt to K B 3d	Kt to K B 3d	22. B to K B 3d	Kt to K B 3d
3. Kt takes K P	P to Q 3d	23. R to Q sq	Kt to Q 5th
4. Kt takes K P (a)	K takes Kt	24. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt
5. B to Q B 4th (ch)	K to his sq	25. B takes P	B to K 2d
6. Castles	Q B to K R 4th	26. P to Q B 5th	K to Q B sq
7. P to K B 3d	Q B to K B 2d	27. P takes P	B takes P
8. Q to K sq	K takes B	28. R to Q B sq (ch)	K to Q Kt sq
9. B takes B (ch)	P to Q 4th	29. B to K 5th	R to Q B sq
10. P to Q 4th	Q to her Kt 3d	30. Q to K Kt 3d	Kt to K 5th
11. P to Q 5th	Q Kt to Q 2d	31. Q to K B 4th	Q to Q Kt 3d (ch)
12. P to Q B 4th	Q R to K sq	32. K to R sq	R takes R
13. P to Q B 4th	K to K 2d (b)	33. B takes B (ch)	K to R sq
14. Kt to Q B 3d	K to Q sq	34. Q takes R	Kt takes B
15. P to K 5th	Q to Q Kt 5th	35. P to K 7th	P takes P
16. P to K 6th	Kt to Q Kt sq	36. P to K B 6th	R takes P (e)
17. P to Q Kt 3d	Q to her Kt 3d	37. R takes P	R takes P (e)
18. Q B to Q 2d (c)	Q to her Kt 3d	38. R to K B 8th	R to K sq
19. Kt to Q Kt 5th	Q to her R 3d	39. R takes R (ch)	Kt takes R
20. P to Q K 3d	Kt takes Q	40. Q Mates	

(a) This brilliant variation in a dull opening is one of those happy strokes of play for which Mr. Cochrane has long been celebrated. He speaks of this sacrifice, &c., as being, in his opinion, perfectly sound, and one that he should countly venture against his best players.

(b) Imprudent, because it allows of the free advance of White's centre Pawn.

(c) Threatening to win the Queen by Kt to Q Kt 4th, &c.

(d) By this move Mr. Cochrane throws away a serviceable Pawn.

(e) An irrefragable blunder.

THE SEARCH FOR SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

The deposition of Captain Martin, made at Peterhead, on the 29th ult., before the Provost, has been published, fully confirming the statement of Capt. Penny, given in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of December 27th, as to the conversation between Captain Martin and Sir John Franklin in lat. 75.10, long. 66. W., on the 28th of July, 1845, the *Erebus* and *Terror* being in company. "The conversation," states the deposition, "lasted all the time the ships were close. (Captain Martin was then master of the whale-ship *Intrepid*.) That Sir John in answer to a question by the declarant, if he had a good supply of provisions and how long he expected them to last, stated that he had provisions for five years, and, if it were necessary, he could 'make them spin out seven years;' and he said, further, that he would lose no opportunity of killing birds, and whatever else was useful that came in the way, to keep up the stock, and that he had plenty of powder and shot for the purpose. That Sir John also stated that he had already got several casks of birds salted, and had then two shooting parties out—one from each ship. The birds were very numerous; many would fall at a single shot, and the declarant has himself killed forty at a shot with white peas. That the birds are very agreeable food, are in taste and size somewhat like young pigeons, and are called by the sailors 'roches.' That on the 26th or 27th of the said month of July, two parties of Sir John's officers, who had been out shooting, dined with the declarant on board the *Enterprise*. There was a boat with six from each ship. Their conversation was to the same effect as Sir John's. They spoke of expecting to be absent four or five, or perhaps six, years. These officers also said that the ships would winter where they could find a convenient place, and in spring push on as far as possible, and so on year after year, as the determination was to push on as far as practicable. That on the following day an invitation was brought to the declarant, verbally, to dine with Sir John; but the wind shifted, and the *Enterprise* having cut through the ice about a mile and a half, the declarant was obliged to decline the invitation. That he saw the *Erebus* and *Terror* for two days longer; they were still lying at an iceberg, and the *Enterprise* was moving slowly down the country. That so numerous were the birds mentioned, and so favourable was the weather for shooting them, that a very large number must have been secured during the time the declarant was in sight of the two ships. The declarant has himself had a supply of the same description of birds, which kept fresh and good during three months, at Davis' Straits, and the last was as good as the first of them."

THE SIBERIAN EXPEDITION.—We regret to learn, from a letter of Sir Roderick Murchison, that the Russian Government, after having maturely considered Lieutenant Pim's plan, to traverse Siberia to its north-eastern extremity, and thence to endeavour to reach the mountainous lands far to the north of Behring's Straits, has come to the conclusion that the gallant lieutenant's notions were opposed by insurmountable obstacles, and the Emperor could not consent to allow the life of a British officer to be perilled in vain; but, being desirous of doing everything possible to aid the search for Sir John Franklin, the Government had placed Lieutenant Pim in communication with M. Baer and M. Middendorf, the one the explorer of Nova Zembla, and the other of Northern and Eastern Siberia, in the hope that by some other plan additional chances might be obtained of procuring the desired tidings. The Russian authorities have, from the beginning, cordially co-operated everywhere with the British, in the Asiatic or American Arctic possessions of Russia. Sir Roderick Murchison urges the search in the Wellington Channel, as also the promotion of Mr. Beaton's project to penetrate to the north of Behring's Straits in a small screw steamer. Sir R. Murchison refers to the fact that five out of six Russian seamen were rescued, after passing upwards of six years in the frozen Arctic region of Spitzbergen, where they found abundance of animal food, as a reason not to despair of Franklin and his crew until every means of rescue had been exhausted. Mr. Beaton has purchased his vessel, which is now strengthening in deck. His first object will be to visit New Siberia, north-west of Behring's Straits, which would have been the ultimate resort of Lieut. Pim, had he succeeded in reaching the coasts of the mainland to the south of it.

THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—Arrangements are now being made, with the consent of the South-Eastern Railway Company, and at the request of the Astronomer Royal, for placing the Royal Observatory at Greenwich in connexion with the wires of the Electric Telegraph Company, which will give facilities for instantaneous astronomical observation at one and the same time in all parts of the kingdom, and by means of the submarine telegraph with nearly all parts of the Continent. Two other advantages will also be obtained; viz. those of ascertaining the difference in the longitude of places, and of regulating the national time by the uniform standard of Greenwich.

INTERESTING AUTOGRAPHS AND MSS.—On the 3d instant there was a sale of curious MSS. and autographs by Puttick and Simpson. Lot 36, six letters of the Princess Catherine Sophia, sister of Frederick, King of Bohemia, sold for £2 11s. Lot 38, forty-seven official letters of Charles I., signed by the King, sold for £19. Lot 40, a letter of Prince Charles Lewis, sold for £2 11s. Lot 69, two pages folio, in the autograph of Sir William Digdale, relating to a search of records, sold for £7 2s. 6d. Lot 87, twelve wardrobe warrants of Henry VII., sold for £4 18s. Lot 88, fifty-three wardrobe warrants of Henry VIII., sold for £15. Lot 109, letters of Admiral Keppel, sold for £3 10s. Lot 112, a letter of Colonel Lane, who was instrumental in saving the life of Charles II. after the battle of Worcester, sold for £4 4s. Lot 143, twelve letters of Lord North, sold for £4. Lot 148, a letter of William O'dys, the bibliographer, with a short autobiography, sold for £4 6s. Lot 176, a parcel of papers relative to the Scotch forfeitures in 1715, sold for £3. Lot 210, the autographs of Sir Charles Wolseley, and that of Colonel Finnes, Cromwell's Speaker, sold for £2 3s.

THE SULTAN AT A ROMAN CATHOLIC MARRIAGE.—The *Courrier de Marseille*, on the authority of a letter from Constantinople, dated Dec. 17, states that the great piece of news there is, that the Sultan has attended the solemnisation of the marriage according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church between the son of M. F.—, and the daughter of the Prince of B—. The report had long been spread that the Sultan intended to be present at this ceremony, but no one would believe that a thing so unprecedented could take place. The Sultan, however, arrived at the nuptial mansion without ceremony, escorted by two horsemen only, and followed by a few domestics. He was received with gratitude by the clergy and the family of the bride and bridegroom. A throne was prepared for him; and after he had taken coffee and smoked the sacramental pipe the ceremony commenced. His Majesty stood up the whole time, saying that he ought not to hear the name of Almighty God called upon in any other person.

THE BUREAUCRACY OF FRANCE.—The *Presse* gives, from an official return the following list of agents and functionaries of all ranks attached to public departments in France:—Justice, 11,100; Foreign Affairs, 632; Public Instruction, 50,000; Interior, 344,000; Public Works, 10,000; War, 30,000; Marine, 13,000; Finance, 76,000. Total, 534,832. In the 11,100 agents connected with the department of Justice are not included 18,000 agents and members of the Legion of Honour, paid by the budget of that institution. Out of the 344,000 of the department of the Interior, the agents paid by the communes amount to 300,000, and the 10,000 *employés* of public works are independent of 15,000 men employed in the repair of the roads.

CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY.

On Tuesday, December 30th, in the parish of St. Martin Vintry, which is united to that of St. Michael College-hill, famous for the college abode and burial-place of Richard Whittington (although, strange to say, no monument or memorial in the present church tells of that illustrious citizen), we had the pleasure of witnessing an exceedingly pretty and most satisfactory Christmas feast; its principal object having been the entertainment of the children who are being educated on the olden and religious foundation of the Vintry Ward School, instituted A.D. 1710, the house of which afforded excellent accommodation for the festive doings. The rector, the Rev. Thomas Darling, presided—directing the innocent and good old sports of Christmas tide; and there was a numerous company of visitors.

Before describing the entertainment itself, we would remark upon the very tasteful and appropriate ornamentation of the rooms, chiefly the work of the schoolmistress; the beautiful evergreens with which they were decked having been a portion of a present from T. Cubitt, Esq., of Clapham, to the Rector, with the greater part of which the church had been beautified. On the walls were hung a plentiful supply of maps and texts from Holy Scripture; besides framed engravings, including Overbecks' "Suffer little children," and two of Holloway's sets of Raphael's Cartoons.

The proceedings were started with a carol, the opening verse of which ran thus—"Christmas comes, the time of gladness;" Mrs. Plummer, organist of the parish, playing a sweet-toned harmonium, the property of the school. This was succeeded by



CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF THE VINTRY WARD SCHOOLS.

of their old schoolfellows, to fit themselves for being, in like manner, good and trustful servants.

Well, then, of these former scholars, a call was made for such girls as, having left since June, 1850, had continued a year, or nearly so, in their places, when there stood forth three—the only three who, by length of absence, could have fulfilled the conditions—to each of whom was presented a packet of books. Afterwards, the oldest scholar in the room was summoned; upon which advanced, with firm and steady step, one declaring herself to be 77—Mary Rignall, mother of the schoolmistress; and, no one putting in a higher claim, she carried off the book intended for such an one. A second distribution of buns and cake now came out, and was speedily exhausted. The closing scene soon followed.

The whole was terminated by singing another carol, "Once in Royal David's city;" and, as a farewell address to all, the latter verses of the one with which the rejoicings had been opened—

I say to all this hallowed season,
Cheerful marks the closing day.

At ten o'clock the sad hour for parting arrived. Notice was given to quit; and never was such a notice much more reluctantly received. Now for the first moment did the looks of the children betray something like grief—grief to think that their blissful, happy evening was come to an end, and that all must now separate—old and young—past scholars and present, rich and poor, the

children of the one and the children of the other; master and servant, minister and people, and patiently, but not without that sweet remembrance of the feast day, wait the coming of another Christmas.

We cannot conclude without giving our hearty assent to a remark which was dropped by one of the strangers present—that the singing was very different from that which is usual in our charity-schools, being of a much higher character, though at the same time simple and unpretending, and all in unison.

SPORTING JUMP OF TWENTY-SIX FEET.

(From a Correspondent.)

This extraordinary jump of 26 feet was made, a few days since, in cool blood, by a bay mare, at Kensal-green, carrying upwards of 12 stone, over one of the sewers which runs under the canal, 500 yards from the gas factory, about 10 feet deep and 20 feet wide.

On Monday week Colonel —, who wanted a steeple-chase umpire, came out to look at the mare; and our Correspondent had provided a cord about 25 feet long, intending to ride at this fence, and thus to measure the distance the mare would go over it. The Colonel, however, thought the dyke one of the ugliest things he had ever seen; adding, that he should

be content with a trial over a much smaller fence. However, our Correspondent had resolved upon the longer leap. The mare having to gallop up a hill to the fence, could not see what was before her until she came very near it; and, accordingly, did not measure her distance properly: she therefore took off six feet from the edge, and reached the opposite bank without any mistake, clearing a distance of 26 feet in a straight line; and, if the rise and fall be added, they would make the actual distance travelled in the air considerably more than 30 feet. The Colonel, on measuring the jump, found the string more than a foot too short. It has been since measured with a rule, and ascertained to be 24 feet 10½ inches, which, with 1 foot 1½ inches, the quantity it wanted of the correct measure, makes exactly 26 feet.

The mare is Irish bred; about 15½ hands high; nearly thoroughbred; with remarkably strong legs. She was bred by Mr. F. P—, of Clonsilla, county Dublin, and is six years old: her sire is Tearaway.

In the accompanying illustration the jump appears in the foreground, the banks being sloped down to the bottom of the dyke. The gateway to the left and the trees are in Kensal-green Cemetery. In the centre are the parsonage and church, the canal-bridge and gas-factory appearing in the corner to the right.

The leap itself is situated on level ground; but the side from which the mare jumped very soon begins to slope down into a hollow, so that she had to gallop up hill to the fence.

The measure was taken from hind-feet to hind-feet.



SPORTING JUMP OF TWENTY-SIX FEET, AT KENSAL-GREEN

PORTRAIT OF A GENTLEMAN, BY VAN EYCK.

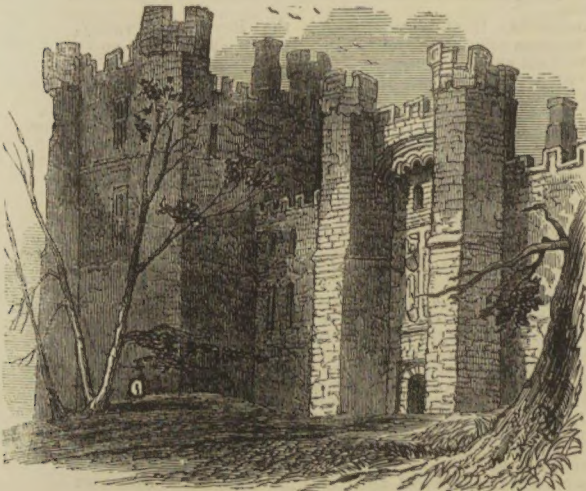
WE this week present our readers with another of the recent additions to the National Gallery. It is a small picture painted on panel, whose antique frame (probably that in which it was originally placed) informs us that it was "done" by Jan de Eyck, 21st October, 1433, A.D. No authentic information is possessed as to whom it represents; some have given it the name of Hubert Van Eyck, the elder brother and instructor of John. Hubert, however, died seven years before the date which this picture bears. The portraits of him, moreover, bear little resemblance to it. Be this as it may, it is a work of unquestionable excellence, and as favourable a specimen of the master as could be desired. While it is pencilled with all the minuteness and delicate finish for which he was famous, the head is by no means deficient in breadth, the flesh is agreeably and truthfully coloured, and the scarlet turban subordinated in tone with great skill. Nor should our admiration be lessened when we consider that this picture was among the earliest painted in oil. Vasari gives to John Van Eyck the honour of inventing that method of painting. It has been found, however, that the process of preparing colours with oil was known long before. Still, as Van Eyck had, in the course of his experiments, himself discovered the value of linseed or walnut oil in painting, and brought it to such a state of practical perfection that it henceforth came into ordinary use, his title to the praise of discovery is just as good as that of most inventors. Vasari further asserts that, about 1410, Anthony of Messina, having seen a picture painted in oil by John Van Eyck, which had been sent to Alphonsus I., King of Naples, went to learn the secret of him, and employed it in founding the Venetian school of painting. The method of the Fleming was speedily adopted in preference to every other process already in use. The chemical knowledge brought to bear on the mechanism of the art, and the careful discrimination in the employment of colours, have made oil and canvas, in the hands of Van Eyck and his successors, little less durable than the marble of Phidias and Praxiteles. For this inestimable boon, art is principally indebted to the painter of Bruges.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

LUMLEY CASTLE, DURHAM.

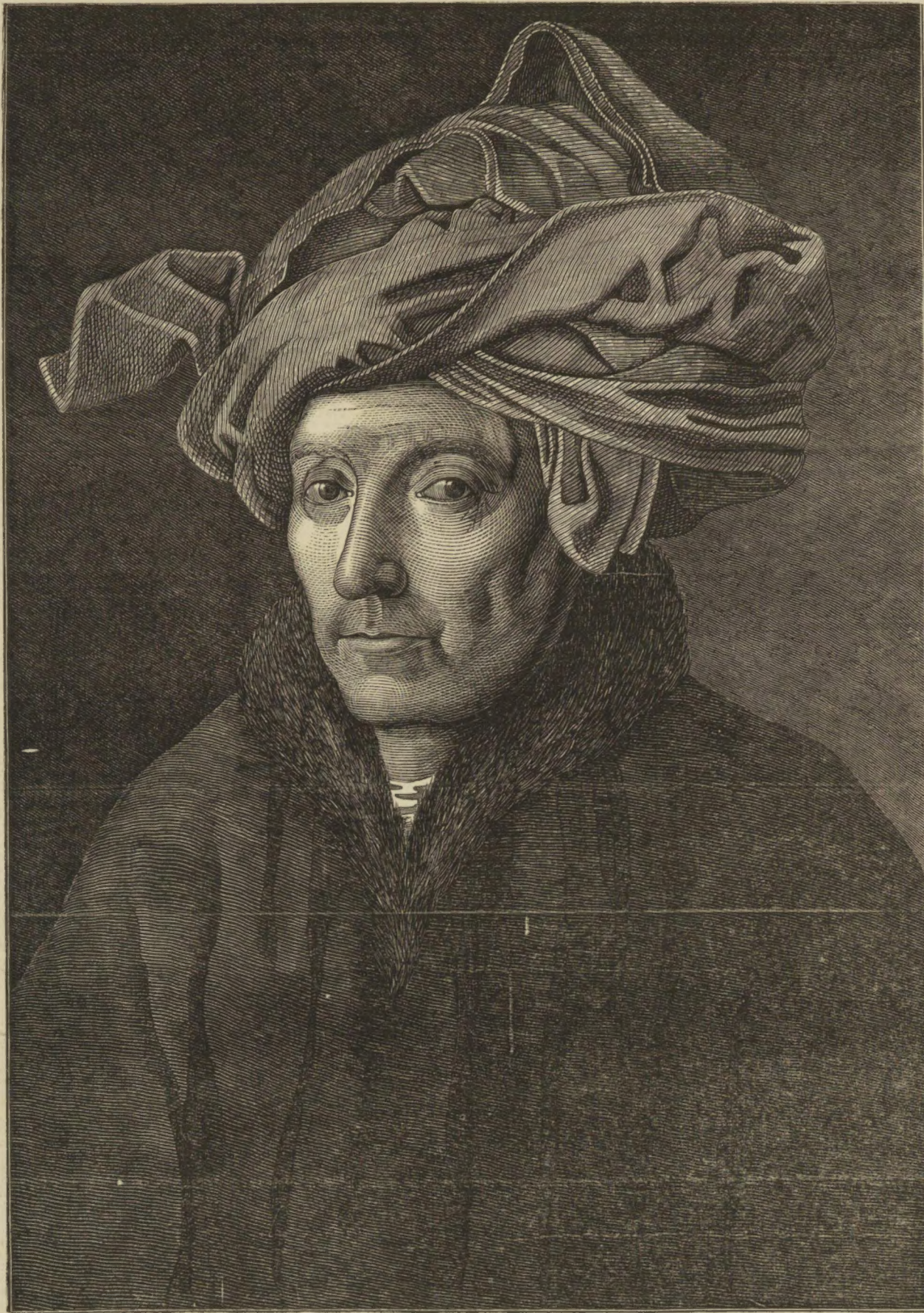
LUMLEY, the seat of the ancient family founded by Liulph, an eminent Saxon, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, was erected into a castle by Sir Richard Lumley, who obtained a licence to that end in 1389; but the body of the edifice was built in the reign of Edward I. At the east entrance are the armorial bearings of the family on six shields carved in stone on the face of a gallery over the gate. The motto of the family is "Murus gneus conscientia sana." The castle is disposed in a quadrangular form, surrounding an open court, and is situated in the township of Little Lumley, on a commanding eminence, about a mile east of Chester-le-Street, on the banks of the river Wear, being, from its situation and dimensions, a conspicuous and noble object, visible from a great distance.

The finest feature is the east front, shown in the accompanying Engraving, which retains all its original antique character. Other parts of the building have suffered from innovation, and the south front is entirely modern. The eastern side of the castle is exceedingly picturesque, rising from a wooded valley, through which flows a stream called Lumley Beck, a tributary of the Wear.



LUMLEY CASTLE.

The great hall of the Castle is celebrated for its dimensions, being ninety feet long, and of proportionate width: it is furnished with a minstrel gallery, and the walls are decorated with numerous time-honoured trophies, together with a series of ideal portraits representing the heads of this ancient house from the Saxons downwards. The principal entrance to the Castle is now in the west front, where the edifice is based on a terrace ranging between the flanking towers, and approached by a double flight of steps.



PORTRAIT OF A GENTLEMAN, PAINTED BY VAN EYCK.—LATELY ADDED TO THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

In the fine view which is obtained from the windows the beautiful spire of the church of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street, is a conspicuous object. This church is the burial-place of the Lumleys, and their tombs, bearing recumbent effigies, extend the whole length of one of the aisles.

Lumley Castle was one of the places where James I. rested when proceeding south to take possession of the English crown; and it is related that his host, entertaining him with a lengthy dissertation on the genealogical honours of the house of Lumley, had traced them back beyond the measure of the King's patience, and was proceeding with "and the head of this branch was Adam de Lumley," when his Royal guest cut him short, crying, "Oh, mon, haud yer hand; let me digest this knowledge I ha' gained; for by my saul I did no ken that Adam was a Lumley."

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Last Saturday Professor Faraday delivered, in Albemarle-street Institution, the third of a series of lectures to a juvenile auditory and many adults, on attractive forces. The lecturer illustrated the peculiarities of electricity, and the attraction produced by it. He first tested its excitement to a high degree by friction in bodies, such as glass, with wax, resin, and then showed its entire removal by passing the hand over the bodies, the whole occurring without any change in the other properties. He next demonstrated the attraction at a distance, and afterwards dwelt upon the equally powerful repulsions, and the considerations which suggested the idea of two kinds of electricity. He then proceeded to illustrate the transference of the power from place to place by convection and also by conduction, and the apparent independence of the power as respected matter shown. He next called attention to the peculiarity of light and heat produced by electricity in its transmission across bad conductors; and offered, in conclusion, some observations to prove that its presence was universal. The lecture was illustrated by a variety of interesting experiments.

THE LATE J. W. M. TURNER, R.A.

IN our memoir of the great landscape-painter, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of December 27, we noticed his humble origin, which we now confirm by a view of his birth-place, the house No. 26, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden, on the north side of the lane, at the corner of Hand-court. The painter was born in the room immediately over the shop of his father, William Turner, who "dressed wigs, shaved beards, and in the days of queues, top-knots, and hair-powder, waited on the gentlemen of the Garden at their own houses, and made money by his trade, then a more flourishing profession than that of a hairdresser of the present day."—*Athenaeum*. The neighbourhood was celebrated for *perruquiers'* shops, of much greater pretension than William Turner's: one of the class exists to this day in Tavistock-street; and in another shop of the kind in Henrietta-street, a few years since, we heard many a reminiscence of the days when Covent-garden was a fashionable quarter of the town, and its streets were crowded with carriages at the afternoon shopping hours. To return to Maiden-lane. The day of Turner's birth is not known; but he was christened at the parish church

of St. Paul's on the 14th of May, 1775. His coffin-plate bears the age of 79. "The first occasion on which Turner is remembered to have manifested a taste for art is peculiarly characteristic of his love of resplendent colours. One day, when a little boy, he accompanied his father to see him dress a gentleman's hair. It happened that an emblazoned drawing of a coat of arms was on the table; and young Turner's fancy being impressed with the design, a short time after their return home his father found that he had made a spirited sketch of a lion that formed part of it. Turner upon this took to drawing, and his first ambition was, not to copy, but to go into the fields and make sketches. A son of Stothard, now living, perfectly remembers his father relating to him that in early life he went one day to Turner's shop, in Maiden-lane, to get his hair cut, when the barber remarked to him in conversation, 'My son is going to be a painter.'"—*Literary Gazette*. About this time he fell in with Girtin, who, with young Turner, was employed, as boys, to colour prints for Mr. John R. Smith, of Maiden-lane, a mezzotint engraver and portrait painter in crayon.

Turner was an exhibitor at the Royal Academy Exhibition in his fifteenth year, the catalogue for 1790 recording the appearance of "A View of the Archbishop's Palace at Lambeth," the artist being described as "J. W. Turner, living in Maiden-lane, Covent-garden." After working assiduously as an Academy student for five years, in his father's house Turner removed to apartments of his own in Hand-court, for five years more, during which decennial period he exhibited at the Academy no fewer than fifty-nine pictures; and in 1800 was elected an Associate, when he removed to 64, Harley-street.

Maiden-lane has other notabilities besides the birth-place of Turner. Archbishop Sancroft resided in the lane, both when Dean of York and Dean of St. Paul's. Andrew Marvell dates one of his letters to his Hull constituents from his lodgings in Maiden-lane, April 21, 1677. Here he was lodging when Charles II. sent Marvell's old schoolfellow, the Lord Treasurer Danby, to renew his acquaintance with him in his garret. At parting the Lord Treasurer slipped into his hand an order upon the Treasury for £1000, and then went to his chariot. The sequel will be remembered: how Marvell called after the Treasurer; how they both went up again to the garret; and Marvell, after showing that he had a mutton blade-bone for a meal, said to Danby, "Andrew Marvell's dinner is provided; there's your piece of paper—I want it not. I know the sort of kindness you intended. I live here to serve my constituents. The Ministry may seek men for their purpose—I am not one." Yet, as soon as the Treasurer had left the house, Marvell sent to borrow a guinea of a friend.

Voltaire, when in England, had lodgings at "The White Peruke," in Maiden-lane.



BIRTHPLACE OF THE LATE MR. TURNER, R.A., MAIDEN-LANE, COVENT-GARDEN

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOL OF MINES AND MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY.—On Tuesday A. C. Ramsey, Esq., delivered the fifth of the series of inaugural and introductory lectures of the session of 1851-52. The subject of the lecture was geology. The lecturer traced the early development of the science from the works of Fracastoro, Leonardo da Vinci, Steno, Scollia, Moro, Colonna, and Generali in Italy; of Palissy and Marillat in France; of Raspe and Fuchsel in Germany; of Woodward, Ruy, Hook, Strachey, and Mitchell in England, down to the present period. He referred to the removal of prejudices against geological investigations, and to the stimulus they had received in the grand generalisations of Werner, Hutton, Currier, and Smith. Now, no single mind could grapple with all the details of the numerous branches, of which the chief were physical geology and palaeontology—the former dealing with the formation of rocks, the nature of subterranean heat, the disturbances in the configuration of land and water; and the latter treating of the history of the old life of the world. It was William Smith, on whom the lecturer bestowed a very high eulogy, who clearly enunciated the doctrine of the characterisation of masses of superimposed strata by distinct groups of fossils, by means of which the geologist was enabled to identify groups of strata though broad oceans rolled between. Mr. Ramsey dwelt on the controversy between the followers of Werner and the more philosophical disciples of Hutton, and on the important results arising from Smith's discovery. He showed how the diffusion of Government maps and sections would materially save capital now wasted in empirical mining proceedings. He eulogised the labours of Sir H. de la Beche, as director-general in the geological survey of Great Britain in connexion with the Board of Ordnance, which survey had since been extended to Ireland, under the direction of Mr. Beete Jukes, he, the lecturer, having the survey of England and Scotland. The broadest and deepest coal-field in Great Britain was that of South Wales, according to Mr. Ramsey, who added that, when the present coal-fields were worked out, the question would arise, at what depths beneath the unconformable covering that shrouds them will coal-bearing strata be found in various directions?—an important problem, which the work they were engaged upon would go far to solve. The nature of Artesian wells was explained by the lecturer; and M. Mulot's labours at Grenoble cited, to prove the importance of geological inquiries, principles which were also connected with the more graceful arts that adorn and elevate society: the landscape-painter might derive infinite instruction from the study of geology. A sound knowledge of theory was indispensable in its study. In the British Isles more eminent men had been produced as geologists than in all Europe; but the revelations were only beginning, and the subject was boundless. On Wednesday, Warrington W. Smyth, M.A., of Cambridge, delivered a lecture, "An extended knowledge of mineralogy, and the process of mining, essential to the interests of all engaged in mining operations."

NATIONAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—The Prime Minister received in Downing-street, last Monday, the following deputation of gentlemen connected with the National Public School Association:—Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P.; W. J. Fox, Esq., M.P.; Thos. Bazley, Esq., President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Royal Commissioner for the Great Exhibition, &c.; R. N. Phillips, Esq.; Abvallon Watkins, Esq., J.P.; Salis Schwabe, Esq., and Philip Lucas, Esq., Manchester; William Rainer Wood, Esq., Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Lancaster; Rev. W. F. Falker, M.A., Incumbent of St. James's, Oldham; Rev. S. Davidson, D.D., L.L.D., Professor of Biblical Criticism, Lancashire Independent College; Rev. William McKerron, D.D., and Rev. J. R. Beard, D.D., Manchester; Rev. J. A. Baynes, M.A., Nottingham; Edward Swaine, Esq.; A. S. Aspland, Esq.; and J. A. Reed, Esq., London; J. A. Pictou, Esq., Liverpool; and Mr. R. W. Smiles, Secretary. Mr. T. M. Gibson, in introducing the deputation, explained that it included members of various religious denominations, which had combined to promote a better system of national instruction than that which unhappily now existed, by carrying through Parliament a bill for a general system of purely secular instruction. It was not intended that it should be compulsory, but a plan to enable the ratepayers to distribute the burthen of national instruction that it might be sustained by a rate, rather than by voluntary distribution. Mr. Bazley, Dr. McKerron, the Rev. W. F. Walker, Mr. W. R. Wood, Dr. Davidson, and Mr. Fox, entered into details of the proposed plan, which the opinion of the country was rapidly approving. It had become imperative to remove the lamentable ignorance of the country by the introduction of a comprehensive system. Mr. Lucas, of the Jewish persuasion, and Mr. Aspland, a member of the Society of Friends, fully concurred with the proposition, the latter objecting strongly to the principle that religious instruction should be paid out of the public purse, and the former declaring that the Jews were quite prepared to accept secular education. Mr. Wood mentioned that the measure was entirely in accordance with the principles to which the Marquis of Lansdowne had given his sanction. Mr. Fox said that the plan was almost identical with that which had received the Government sanction in Ireland. Lord John Russell, in reply to the remarks of the deputation, said that the country was indebted to the association for making an effort in behalf of education, the state of which in this country he had long felt was such as they had no reason to be proud of—indeed they had reason to be ashamed of. The Government had, however, not come to any decision on the subject, and his own remarks must be taken as subject to further reflection, the plan of a great scheme of national education to be undertaken by the Government requiring deep consideration. The Prime Minister then referred to the measures of the Cabinets of Lord Melbourne and Sir R. Peel, which were finally abandoned. He thought the question was approaching a solution, but it was not yet ripe, as it was also Lord Lansdowne's opinion, for Government interference. The tendency of public opinion had been to combine secular with religious education, as exemplified in the proceedings of the British and Foreign School Society, the National Society, the Wesleyan schools, and the Congregational schools. It was his opinion that the general feeling of the country was to combine literary with religious instruction. Connected as he was with the British and Foreign Society, he might be prejudiced, but such was his opinion. He did not think that the best scheme for Ireland would be the best for this country. It was very encouraging, however, that the great body of ratepayers were willing to be taxed for education. He did not pledge himself to any particular course, but he hoped they would go on with their scheme, as, even with failure, good must be done. A thought Sir James Graham's measure had failed, and produced a great deal of clamour, it was still productive of large and beneficial results. He did not hold that there was any hostility between secular and religious instruction. His opinion was, that if the country were to say there must be secular instruction alone, so far from that being hostile to religion, it would only make the pupils more capable of understanding the ministers of religion and the great truths, the love of God and of our neighbours, and the moral duties which, although not the Christian religion themselves, yet were important portions of it, and their inculcation prepared the mind for its reception. In any objections to the plan, he did not wish to be understood, therefore, as saying there was any hostility between secular and religious instruction. Dr. Beard explained that their plan did not necessarily exclude the Bible; it was left for the local committee to decide; petitions with signatures of 55,000 persons were in favour of the plan. The conference then ended.

THE MASTER ENGINEERS AND THE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—This day (Saturday, the 10th inst.) the master engineers close their works, in consequence of the proceedings of the Amalgamated Society, noticed in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week. About 3500 members of the society are now out of employ; and, counting moulders, carpenters, boiler-makers, brass-moulders, coppersmiths, painters, turners, unskilled labourers, and apprentices, it is calculated that 20,000 persons have been affected by the resolve of the masters, of which number Lancashire alone will count for 10,000. The moulders met last Saturday, and resolved not to return to their labour after this day without being compensated for the loss of time from this date. At a meeting also of the executive council of the Amalgamated Society last Sunday night it was resolved, "That, inasmuch as the employers have refused to do the work for the public, six members of the Amalgamated Society determine to undertake the operations, and to advertise to the same effect in the newspapers." There are rumours of capital being forthcoming to back the men, if the society will invest £10,000 in tools. It appears that 15s. a week will be allowed to the men out of employment, if the 23rd rule of the society be enforced; but it is intended, it is added, not to draw upon the deposited fund, £25,000, to support the 3500 men, but to levy a special rate on those who may remain in employ. A meeting of the central club took place on Monday night, at Stepney; Mr. Newton reported progress, but nothing new was elicited. At the meeting of the executive council of the Amalgamated Society, on Tuesday night, resolutions were agreed to, that £10,000 of the funds should be produced to not less than six trustees, to advance portions from time to time, to carry on the business of engineers, machinists, &c., and that such advances shall be secured by a mortgage of all the plant and stock in trade employed in the business to the said trustees, who shall have the power to give a preference of security to any such other advances over the sums advanced out of the funds of the society, and that the conditions of work for the business shall be such as are approved of by the executive council, with the view of giving employment to the greatest possible number of members of the trade out of employment. In a letter signed W. Allan, secretary, dated January 5th, Little Aisle-street, addressed to the Masters' Association, the executive council stated that, if the committee of employers were desirous of a conference, they were ready to wait on them, in relation to the matters in dispute. The reply to this communication, signed by Mr. Sidney Smith, from Bucklersbury, was, that the letter of the executive council should be laid before the executive committee of the masters on the same evening. On Wednesday the dispute became further complicated by the closing of the establishment of Mr. Scott, machinist, Commercial Road East, in consequence of the refusal of the men to submit to a new condition in connexion with overtime, proposed to be carried out by their employer, one of the masters who gave the notice for the 10th inst. Mr. Sidney Smith, in a letter to Mr. Allan, dated the 6th, received on Wednesday, gave the reply of the Central Association of Employers of Operative Engineers to the offer of a conference, refusing to recognise the executive council of the Amalgamated Society as the proper channel for effecting any arrangements between themselves and those in their employment: it was added, that the Masters' Association had been formed for the express purpose of defending themselves and their well-disposed workmen from the dictation and pernicious interference of the council, represented by Mr. Allan. On Thursday the executive council took this answer of the masters into consideration. At a meeting of the London District Committee on Wednesday night, adhesions to the attitude assumed by the executive council were given by various deputations. Work at the shops was to be closed last night (Friday), the week's wages being then due, owing to the practice of keeping a day's pay in hand. Something like an advance towards reconciliation was considered in Manchester, on Wednesday, to have been manifested by the executive council, as a telegraphic message was sent from London to announce that the council had never demanded the dismissal of persons at present working self-acting machines, nor was it their intention to do so.

ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Thursday a meeting of the committee of this institution was held at the offices, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Wilson, Esq., in the chair—when the medal of the society was given to Joshua Chard, for the assistance he and his crew, who received a pecuniary reward, afforded to the crew of the *John*, of Newcastle, on the coast of Suffolk, on the 9th of December, and without which they would most probably have all been drowned. Pecuniary rewards were also given to other individuals for acts of gallantry. During the past year upwards of 700 wrecks occurred on the coast of the United Kingdom; and the society are now making every exertion to increase the number of their life-boats at every point where they are likely to prove useful.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' GIRLS' SCHOOL.—On Thursday a general court of this institution was held at the school-house, Westminster-road; Brother Blake, V.P., in the chair. The names of the children allowed to stand as candidates for election in April next having been approved, Mr. B. Bond Cabbell, M.P., the treasurer, read the financial statement, from which it appears that the building fund for the new school at Wandsworth now amounts to £2110 14s. The number of girls now in the school is 65. The report was adopted, and some formal business transacted.

CITY ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL, HATTON-GARDEN.—On Wednesday a meeting of the friends and supporters of this institution was held in the board-room, and the usual routine business having passed, it was stated by the Senior Surgeon, E. J. Chance, Esq., of Old Broad-street, that the number of patients at present upon the books amounted to 392, male and female children, and that each case was progressing in the most satisfactory manner. The wards for the reception of the in-patients are rapidly approaching completion; and when it is known that John Gurney Fry, Esq., and Samuel Gurney, Jun., Esq., have accepted the trusteeship of the charity, a cheering hope may be entertained that the City Orthopaedic will speedily rank among the first of the London charities, both in practice and utility.

CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES IN THE CHEST.—At the fourth annual court of the governors, held at the London Tavern, on Tuesday—Mr. John Dillon in the chair—the report stated that 2931 persons had obtained relief in 1851, an increase of 358 over the return of 1850. Since the charity was established in 1843, 10,420 persons had obtained gratuitous advice and medicine. The average weekly increase of patients in 1850 had been 47. The balance, Dec. 31, 1850, was £216 9s. 11d.; since which period £3596 10s. 9d. had been received, with the sum of £3953 11s. 3d. previously invested, made a total of £7866 11s. 11d. The expenditures had been £1469 9s., and the sum of £3285 9s. 9d. for the new building, making a total of £4754 18s. 9d. The balance to the credit of the institution is £3111 13s. 3d., of which £453 11s. 3d. was invested in the Three per Cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities, £2500 at three per cent. in the hands of Overend, Gurney, and Co.; and the balance, £158 11s. 11d., in the hands of the bankers. Prince Albert laid the first stone of the new hospital last June, and its completion was anticipated in the spring of 1853, but £10,000 would be required, and, as the annual expense of the charity was £1400, the aid of the public was invoked. Sir Joseph Paxton's plan for a crystal sanatorium would be taken into consideration. Complimentary allusions to Prince Albert, to the Bishops of London and Oxford, the Chevalier Bunsen, T. Baring, Esq., M.P., H. E. Gurney, Esq., the late T. Fowler, Esq., were made in the report.

COLONIAL BANK.—From the report read at the half-yearly meeting on Tuesday—C. Marryat, Esq., in the chair—it appears that the losses in 1847 and 1848, a period so disastrous to West India property, will not exceed £210,000, against which there has been accumulated a fund of £31,593 1s. 3d. The profits of the bank had gradually increased, and the capital was ample for all its operations. A dividend of 1½ per cent., being at the rate of 3 per cent. on the paid-up capital, was declared, out of the net profits of £15,417 1s. 3d., for the half-year ending June 30, 1851. The expenses of the bank had been reduced £6000 from what they were three years since.

COMPANY OF COPPER-MINERS IN ENGLAND.—The entire court of management having resigned, a ballot took place last Saturday for the different officers in the terms of the charter, when the gentlemen recommended by the committee were elected.

DEFENDER INSURANCE COMPANY.—At the fifth annual meeting, on Monday, of this company, established principally to reduce the premiums charged on the insurance of pawnbrokers' stock, a very favourable report of the finances was read.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.—At a public meeting, at the Mile-end Beamont Institution, last Monday evening, Mr. W. A. Wilkinson, Mr. Ebenezer Clarke, Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Rowton, and others explained the object and principles of the society.

EAST PANCRAS PAROCHIAL ASSOCIATION.—A discussion took place in the St. Pancras vestry on Wednesday, respecting a resolution of the association calling upon the vestry to convene a public meeting to consider the question of Parliamentary and Financial Reform. A motion having been made in the vestry that such meeting should be held on the 26th instant, an amendment was moved, that it was not considered consistent with the duties of the vestry to be identified with political proceedings. The original motion was carried by a large majority, and the meeting will therefore be held on the 26th.

CITY OF LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting on Wednesday, a satisfactory report of the progress of the society was read. The total sum now assured is £258,978 8s., and the annual income is £9563 8s. The assets have been increased during the past year to the extent of £5000; the claims paid were 1630 in 1851. The principle of self-protecting policies had been adopted by the directors, by which a new combination of interests was introduced into life assurance, whereby the assured would receive by one policy and one rate of premium an endowment of a specific sum to be paid to the assured on his attaining a specified age. The retiring directors were re-elected.

SOVEREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—At the annual meeting on Wednesday—Lord A. Lennox in the chair—the report stated that there had been a steady increase of business. A dividend of 5 per cent. on the paid-up capital was declared. The claims from policies had been £4350, or about 14 per cent. of the income from premiums.

RENT GUARANTEE SOCIETY.—On Thursday the first annual meeting of this society was held in the offices, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house; C. W. Johnson, Esq., in the chair. The report congratulated the shareholders on the success which had hitherto attended their efforts, being convinced that the foundation had been laid for a superstructure of great magnitude and importance. The preliminary and current expenses for the first year were only respectively £877 2s. 8d. and £910 15s. 8d., the latter of which could not again occur. Proposals to the extent of upwards of £46,000 annual income, representing nearly £1,000,000 of property, had been submitted for collection and assurance to the society, the income of which already exceeded the expenses. The report was adopted, interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum declared payable, and a variety of formal resolutions passed. The meeting then separated.

NEW YEAR'S EVE IN THE LUNATIC ASYLUM AT COLNEY HATCH.—The patients, to the number of 400—females 230, males 166—were treated to a variety of amusements, including music and dancing; many of the officers and visitors joining in the entertainment, given under the auspices of the visiting justices. The exercising hall had been decorated by the patients with evergreens and flags. The National Anthem was sung at the conclusion by the whole of the patients, who returned to their respective wards quite gratified with the evening's banquet. H. Pownall, Esq., Chairman of the Bench of Magistrates, B. Roich, Esq., the Chairman of the Committee of Visiting Justices, and other gentlemen, were present.

OMNIBUS IMPROVEMENTS.—On Monday the greater portion of those omnibus proprietors and conveyance companies whose vehicles ply within short distances of the metropolis, and who were opposed to any reduction in the fares, not only succumbed to public opinion on the subject, but also placed some new and elegant omnibuses, splendidly fitted and well horsed, on the various lines of road. The new vehicles have better sitting room, and are much wider between the seats; in a few there are covered life-lines extending along the inside of the roof, for the purpose of passengers steadying themselves either in seeking a seat or going to alight, and the ventilation is on a better principle. With respect to fares, a person may travel through nearly the whole metropolis on the north bank of the Thames at a halfpenny a mile, and in some instances for less. By taking the proper conveyances from the Edgware-road to Whitechapel-road, or vice versa, the distance can be accomplished for fourpence; that is—to Tottenham-court-road one penny, and thence to Whitechapel-road threepence.

METROPOLITAN OMNIBUS SERVANTS.—At a public meeting in the Infant School-room, Paddington-green, on Monday night—the vicar, the Rev. M. A. Campbell, in the chair—the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, the Rev. G. Fiske, the Rev. Dr. Burns, Sir Henry Goring, Mr. Scully, the Rev. G. Molyneux, and Capt. Huish spoke in favour of resolutions sympathising with the omnibus servants, whilst Mr. Edwards and Mr. Gray, omnibus proprietors, defended their body from alleged misrepresentations and exaggerations; they wished well to the Metropolitan Omnibus Servants' Provident Society, ten per cent. of the capital of which had been contributed by the employers. In the course of the discussion an elderly lady interrupted Dr. Burns, and exclaimed, "The Christian clergy take his own carriage to church, and employs his own coachman on the Sunday!"

CANTERBURY SETTLEMENT.—The *Stag*, Captain Clarke, with about 120 cabin passengers and labourers, has sailed for New Zealand from Gravesend. On Saturday the vessel was inspected by a party of gentlemen interested in the Canterbury Settlement, amongst whom were Lord Lyttelton, the Hon. Mr. Campbell, M.P., and Mr. Aylmer, the superintendent of emigration, &c. Lord Lyttelton delivered a parting address to the emigrants, stating that he hoped some day to visit New Zealand, when the passage would be shortened by steam navigation. A farewell dinner took place in the evening to Mr. Bowler, who is at the head of the body of colonists, at Water's Hotel, Gravesend; Mr. E. G. Wakefield, and the chairman addressed the company on the merits and success of the Canterbury Settlement, and the exertions of Mr. Bowler in the cause of emigration were duly acknowledged.

ALARM OF FIRE AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND.—About dusk last Saturday evening some excitement was created in the vicinity of the Bank of England by an unusual appearance of fire in that establishment, and a general alarm was given at some of the brigade engine stations. Engines from all parts hastened into the City, when, on reaching the Bank of England, the firemen learnt that the directors were "burning the old bank-notes," hence the reflection in the air. As the flames continued with little intermission for nearly two hours, the number of fimsies consumed must have been immense. They had been returned to the Bank during the last twelve months.

THE CUSTOM HOUSE SYSTEM.—A correspondence has been published between W. Williams, Esq., M.P., and the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, illustrating the delays and vexations of the present Custom House system in searching luggage arriving from foreign ports. Mr. Williams, with only a portmanteau, was detained, on arriving from Ostend, nearly two hours at St. Katharine's wharf. Mr. Williams suggested to the Lords of the Treasury, that the luggage might be examined at Gravesend by the Custom House officers on board, whilst the steamer was going up the river, and thus avoid delay and detention. The replies of Mr. G. Cornwall Lewis are cold and formal; declining not only to accept the suggestion, but declaring that "My Lords" have not considered it necessary to issue any instructions to the Board of Customs to alter the existing regulations to facilitate the examination of luggage.

MEETING OF SURREY MAGISTRATES.—A meeting took place on Tuesday, at the Sessions House, Newington-causeway; Mr. Puckle presiding. A county rate of threepence in the pound was agreed to. The report of the medical officers as to the health of the prisoners in the county prisons was favourable. A petition of the Rev. Mr. Richards, chaplain of Guildford Gaol, who had been dismissed for misconduct, for a retiring allowance, was rejected by a large majority. The Rev. Mr. Davis and the Rev. Mr. Edwards were the candidates for the office of assistant chaplain to the Wandsworth New Prison; the latter was elected. A motion of Mr. Freshfield that the committee should inquire into the system of punishment, and report at the next adjournment, was carried. Mr. Johnson complained that the magistrates still continued to send prisoners to Brixton and other prisons instead of the New Prison. A resolution was then proposed that the governors of the old prisons should not receive any more male prisoners, and that no females be sent except to Brixton. The purchase of the land in front of Wandsworth New Prison was authorised, the court reserving instructions as to its future enclosure. An application to the Secretary of State, by the Clerk of the Peace, for the expenses of printing the calendars, was ordered, as all criminal prosecutions were now paid out of the Consolidated Fund. The payment of the Clerk of the Peace by salary in place of fees is suggested.

GRAND SURREY TIDAL DOCK.—Amongst other measures proposed for the improvement and accommodation of the Thames navigation, a new plan is announced for the construction of a large tidal dock on the Surrey side of the river.

BILLINGSGATE IMPROVEMENTS.—At a meeting in Fellowship Hall, St. Mary-at-Hill, on Wednesday, resolutions were passed to nominate a committee to report what improvements were possible to facilitate the increasing trade of the ward of Billingsgate, as the traffic was now quite obstructed, and the Custom-house was quite difficult of access.

THE NEW WING TO SOMERSET-HOUSE.—The whole of the excavations for the foundations having been completed, the lower bed was commenced last week for the additional wing about to be erected to the edifice, and workmen are busily employed, even working by gaslight, in wheeling concrete from barges alongside into the intended foundation floors, of which material they will be formed to the extent of several feet in thickness before any courses of masonry will be laid down. The "diggings" have been carried twelve or fourteen feet below high water, and the basement walls will be so substantially constructed as to resist effectually any encroachments from strong tides or the overflowing of the river.

PRINCE ALBERT'S MODEL LODGING-HOUSES.—On a plot of barren ground contiguous to the Shadwell station of the Blackwall Railway, which was formerly occupied by some miserable hovels, a range of dwellings, exactly similar in size and architecture to Prince Albert's model lodging-house in Hyde-park, have been erected. They are two stories in height, each floor having three rooms; and their style of build has a most pleasing effect. At present the range is confined to twelve dwellings, but it is proposed to increase them to as many more.

FIRE.—Two extensive fires took place on Sunday night in Gravel-lane and Westminster-road, both on the Surrey side of the Thames. The first took place shortly before 6 p.m. at the premises of Mr. T. Tipper, timber-merchant, 28, Gravel-lane, Southwark; and the other at the premises of Mr. Hazeldine, a tobacconist, and Mr. Collins, a betting-office keeper, at No. 4, in the Westminster-road, facing the Red Lion Tavern, which were completely gutted, and some damage done to the coffee-house next door. At Mr. Tipper's not only were some thousands of pounds' worth of property destroyed, but much damage was done to Mr. Rutt's mahogany and deal yard, and to several houses in Gravel-lane. But for the interposition of two men, named Swale and Nott, who rushed into a store and removed a quantity of veneers, the mischief would have been much more serious. It was 6 p.m. on Monday before the fire on Mr. Tipper's premises had totally subsided.

FALL OF TWO HOUSES.—On Monday afternoon two houses under demolition fell in Bath-row, Clerkenwell, but, fortunately, the workmen had time to escape.

SUICIDE OF A LEGAL TOUTER.—Flanagan, the well-known touter, who frequented the sessions of the Criminal Courts, and who was committed to take his trial for fraudulently obtaining fees in the character of an attorney, committed suicide in Newgate, on Monday, by immersing his head in a pail of water which was brought to him for ablution. On Tuesday, Mr. W. Payne, the City Coroner, held an inquest in the presence of the Sheriff. The deceased had tied a handkerchief round his neck, but not so tightly as to cause strangulation. From the evidence of the wife and son of Flanagan, and from some wild incoherent letters found in his hat, addressed to his wife, to the public, to the Queen and Prince Albert, no doubt could be entertained of the insanity of the deceased, and a verdict to that effect was recorded. The Sheriff's humanity presented the widow with £5. Flanagan had attempted suicide some years before.

THE CONVICT, SARAH ANN HILL.—A memorial as to this unfortunate woman, now under sentence of death at York Castle, was presented on Saturday last to Sir George Grey, by the Rev. H. Jones, curate of Wakefield, and G. W. Harrison, Esq., an alderman of the borough, forming a deputation from the inhabitant householders of Wakefield, praying for a commutation of the extreme sentence of the law. Mr. Jones and Mr. Harrison had an interview on Monday with Mr. Waddington, at the Home-office, and laid before him some additional facts, on affidavit, in support of the prayer of the memorial.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—In the week ending Saturday, Jan. 3, the returns, including the whole of the metropolitan districts, of births registered are:—Males, 904; females, 869; total, 1774; and deaths—Males, 692; females, 605; total, 1297. The average number of births, in seven corresponding weeks of 1845-51, was 1846. The average number of deaths in the corresponding weeks of the ten years 1841-50 was 1185; which, if raised in proportion to the greater amount of population now existing, will be 1304; the deaths of last week thus nearly corresponding in amount with the corrected average. The present return is considerably increased, as regards those arising from fractures, poison, burns, and other injuries. Many of such cases occurred in previous weeks, and have been accumulating till the end of the quarter, when their registration was completed: in this category are 6 deaths from poison, 13 from burns and scalds, 24 from suffocation, including 7 cases of suicide by hanging (all males), and 14 cases of suffocation of children by the bedclothes or overlaid, 26 by drowning, and 34 by fractures, contusions, and wounds. Among the last are five by injuries by horses and carriages, and 12 by falling; and of the burns, 4 arose from the clothes taking fire. The casualties have been unusually great in the causes of mortality. In diseases of the lungs, the fatal cases have risen from 219 to 253; consumption, from 98 to 136. Bronchitis has been fatal in 117 instances; and asthma in 20. Epidemic deaths have advanced from 203 to 234. Smallpox was fatal in 33 cases, vaccination not having been performed in any one of them; hooping-cough 39, scarlatina 41, typhus 50, measles 20 children, croup 2, thrush 3; diarrhoea and dysentery, the former 16, and the latter 4; influenza 6, erysipelas 7, intermittent and remittent fever 3. Intemperance has destroyed 2 persons, 1 has perished from cold, and 2 from exhaustion caused by want. In the 1297 deaths of last week, the cause of death in 1050 cases was registered by a qualified medical man; in 195 cases coroners' inquests were held; in 18 cases no cause of death was certified, because deceased had no medical attendant, and no inquest was held; in 34 cases either the cause of death was not certified, or only by oral statement, or by unqualified informant. Thus 96 per cent. is the proportion of certified deaths.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean daily reading of the barometer was above 30 in. on the first four days of the week. The mean reading of the week was 30.00 in. The mean temperature of the week was 36°, which differs little from the average of corresponding weeks in the last ten years. With the exception of Sunday, when the temperature was slightly above the average, the daily mean was below the average on every day till Saturday, when it rose to 40.4 degrees, or 4 degrees above it. On the last three days the wind blew from the south-west.

PETERBOROUGH RAILWAY LITERARY SOCIETY.—On the 1st inst. this institution (which supplies upwards of 300 railway clerks, engineers, porters, and their families with the means of self-improvement) gave an evening party in the Eastern Counties refreshment-rooms, which were characteristically decorated for the occasion. After tea had been served, the company were eloquently addressed by several speakers on the advantages of literary associations; dancing then commenced, and was kept up with great spirit until morning.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT HIGHGATE.—On Saturday evening, about eight o'clock, the neighbourhood of Highgate was much shocked and alarmed at an explosion proceeding from the house of Mrs. Dutton, near the church. It appears that two young students of the law, Mr. Foster (the son of Sir W. Foster, of Norwich) and his friend, Mr. Wynn Edwards, were reading with one another preparatory to their approaching examination, when an explosion of naphtha took place from the incantations use of it by the former in trimming his lamp. Mr. Foster, though much injured, we understand is likely to do well, but we are sorry to say that his friend, Mr. Edwards, has sustained such frightful injury as not to have been recognised by his friends when removed to his residence. Had not Mr. Foster on the moment of the accident, with great presence of mind, snatched his friend up in his arms, though in a blaze from head to foot, and rolled him, together with himself, on the grass plot outside, and extinguished the flames, both gentlemen would inevitably have perished. We regret to add that Mr. Edwards died on Monday morning, the immediate cause being the irreparable shock sustained by the nervous system at the moment of the accident. Mr. Foster is gradually recovering. The necessity of subjecting spirit-lamps to some safety test is exemplified in this unfortunate accident.

BISHOPRIC OF JERUSALEM.—The Protestant Bishopric which was founded ten years since at Jerusalem, under the protection of England and of Prussia, having become vacant, will be now filled by a prelate chosen by the King of Prussia. M. Valentiner, a Schleswig ecclesiastic, who had been obliged to quit his country in consequence of political events, has been selected for the post. He has just left Berlin for Trieste, whence he will embark for his destination.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

NAVAL STORES.—PUTRID PROVISIONS.

During the last and the present week a discovery has been made relative to the state of the preserved meats for the use of the navy, stored at Portsmouth, which has created quite a sensation, not only in naval circles, but with the public also; as it proves that there is great mismanagement, neglect of duty, or dishonesty somewhere. The consequences of such frauds as the examination disclosed cannot be too seriously estimated; and it is very naturally put, as a case in point, suppose Sir John Franklin and his party to have been supplied with such food as that condemned, and relying upon it as their mainstay in time of need, the very means furnished for saving their lives may have bred a pestilence or famine among them, and been their destruction.

The examination was commenced on Tuesday week, and was conducted by a board of examination, consisting of Mr. John Davies, R.N., master attendant of the Royal Clarence Victualling Establishment, Gosport; Mr. Joseph Pinhorn, R.N., storekeeper; and Dr. Alexander M'Keechie, surgeon and medical storekeeper of the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar. The examination has disclosed some horrible facts. The canisters containing the meat are upon the average about 10-lb. canisters. On Tuesday 643 of them were opened, out of which number no fewer than 573 were condemned, their contents being masses of putrefaction. On Wednesday 779 canisters were opened, out of which number 734 were condemned. On Thursday 791 canisters were opened, out of which number 744 were condemned. On Friday 494 canisters were opened, out of which 459 were condemned. Thus, out of 2707 canisters of meat opened, only 197 have proved fit for human food, those condemned for the most part containing such substances as pieces of heart, roots of tongue, pieces of palates, pieces of tongues, coagulated blood, pieces of liver, ligaments of the throat, pieces of intestines—in short, garbage and putridity in a horrible state, the stench arising from which is most sickening and the sight revolting. The examining board and party were compelled to use profusely Sir W. Burnett's disinfecting fluid to keep off, or in the hope of keeping off, pestilence. On Friday, however, they deemed it prudent to desist from further exposure for a time, to guard against danger. There were upwards of 6000 canisters to examine at the commencement. This stuff was supplied to the Admiralty and delivered into store at the Clarence-yard last November twelvemonth, warranted equal to sample, and to keep sound and consumable for five years. We are informed it came from Galatz, in Moldavia. The few canisters containing meat fit for human beings to eat have been distributed, under the direction of Captain Superintendent Parry, to the deserving poor of the neighbourhood, and those containing the putrid stock have been conveyed to Spithead in lighters and thrown overboard.

On Monday, this week, the board of examination resumed their labours, when the result disclosed worse matter than even had been brought to light during last week's examination. Of 491 canisters opened on that day, 437 were condemned, their contents being, if possible, worse than any before exposed, and 54, being considered good enough to pass, were distributed to the poor of the port. The bad were thrown overboard at Spithead. The investigating board left off rather early, owing to the abominable effluvia.

On Tuesday the board pursued their nauseous task of examination, as long as the effluvia emitted from the canisters was endurable; but they had in a short time to give up the unwholesome work, notwithstanding the use in large quantities of the very effective disinfecting solution of Dr. Sir William Burnett, the Director-General of the Medical Department of the navy. During the day they opened 497 canisters, varying in the amount of their contents from 10 lb. to 104 lb. each, 466 of which were condemned and thrown overboard at Spithead, and 31 only considered fit to let pass for distribution among the poor. On Wednesday, out of 300 canisters, of the respective size of 10 lb., 104 lb., 104 lb., and 11 lb. each, only one was suffered to pass as consumable; the rest were condemned. Each day brought to light some item of disgust in the matter of the commodity sealed up as "preserved meat," such as clots of hair, a piece of intestine with the manure in it, a huge lump of gangrenous kidney, and other abominations. On the other days of the week the remaining cases, 2600 in number, were examined with like result.

In the course of the week Dr. Twynam, an experimental agriculturist, applied to purchase a quantity of the offal condemned, with the view of its forming the matrix of ammoniacal manure, but his application was not granted; he was recommended by the authorities to make his application to the Lords of the Admiralty.

DISTILLED WATER AT SEA.—On Tuesday, at Portsmouth, Mr. Davies, the Master-Attendant of the Royal Clarence Victualling Establishment, Gosport, superintended the completion of the fitting of Grant's improved cooking galley on board the *Simoom* iron troop steam-ship, which is now coaling for a good trial. This galley cooks and distils (one gallon of fresh aerated water from salt water per minute) for 1000 men. Such an acquisition for ships of war, whether steamers or sailing vessels, cannot be too highly estimated.

DOUBLE-BARRELED RIFLE CARABINES FOR THE CAPE.—Three hundred and fifty double-barreled rifle carabines have been shipped in the *Birkenhead* steam troop-ship for conveyance to the Cape of Good Hope. These rifle carabines are for the use of the 12th Lancers. The balls used in them are of the conical description, found so effectual in long ranges by Mr. Lancaster, doing great execution at 600 or 800, and in many instances at 1000 yards' range. The result of the recent trials of small-arms gives reason to expect that a complete change in the arms of the British soldier will shortly take place; and it is contemplated to have rifle cannon made ready for experiments during the present year, some beautiful self-acting machinery having been invented for grooving the cannon in the most perfect manner. It is expected that with rifled cannon and conical-shaped shot the field artillery will attain a great range, far exceeding what can be obtained from small arm rifles.

DELAY OF THE TROOPS FOR THE CAPE.—The *Megara* steamer has put into Plymouth in a thoroughly disabled state, unable to proceed with the 1st battalion Rifle Brigade to the Cape of Good Hope.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS.—The 1st battalion Rifle Brigade (service companies) having embarked on Friday week, at Dover, on board the *Megara*, for the Cape of Good Hope, the following movements of *dépôts* have in consequence taken place:—*Dépôt* 1st battalion Rifle Brigade, from Dover, arrived at Walmer, 3d January; *dépôt* 30th Regiment, from Walmer, arrived at Dover 2d January; *dépôt* 67th Regiment, from the Isle of Wight, arrived at Dover 3d January.

RETIRED FULL-PAY LIST.—We understand (says the *United Service Gazette*) a new warrant is about to be issued with reference to the full-pay retirement. The number of brevet officers and captains to be 110 instead of 115. The number of full-pay captains at 11s. 7d. to be reduced from 70 to 36, and that of brevet field officers at 13s. 7d. to be increased from 45 to 74. Of the latter there is at present but one vacant.

ROYAL MILITARY ASYLUM, CHELSEA.—The commandantship of this asylum, about to be vacated by Major-General Peter Brown, will, it is understood, be given to Colonel Slade, commanding the 90th Regiment, which will thus cause a vacancy in that corps.

DEATH OF A MILITARY KNIGHT OF WINDSOR.—Mr. Rand, late Quartermaster of the 43d Regiment, who had received the appointment of a Military Knight of Windsor about two years ago, died at the Castle, on the 21st ult. He had been many years in the service, and had received the silver medal with nine clasps.

NAVAL SURGEONS.—By accounts, dated Dec. 26, from the Mediterranean, we are informed of great discontent prevailing among the assistant-surgeons of the squadron, owing to the arbitrary conduct of Sir William Parker in depriving sundry of them of their cabins, &c.

THE FORTIFICATIONS AT SHEerness.—Orders have been given by the Colonel-Commandant, according to instructions from the Horse Guards, to affix the sights and locks on all the sea-battery guns; also to all the guns forming the inner fortifications of the arsenal, citadel, &c.; and also to stock with shell, shot, and ammunition all the serving magazines to the batteries. The Royal Artillery commenced on Monday next a battery of about 80 guns of large calibre on swivel carriages, which could, if necessary, be directed seaward, and concentrated on one hull.

Measles have broken out on board the *Bellerophon*, 78, Captain Lord Paulet, and liberty to go on shore is prohibited to her crew. At the above date she had sent two subordinate officers and three boys, labouring under the disease, to Malta Hospital.

On Tuesday a Parliamentary return was printed, showing the business transacted in the County Courts from the 1st January to the 31st December, 1850. In the year there were 396,793 plaintiffs entered, and the number of causes tried was 217,173. The total amount for which plaintiffs were entered was £1,265,115, of which it appears that judgment was given for £247,586; and there was paid into court, to the credit of the plaintiffs before trial, by the defendants, £288,330. The causes tried were about 55 in the 100 of the number of plaintiffs entered. The amounts claimed by the plaintiffs which did not proceed to trial were in most cases paid directly to the plaintiffs by the defendants, and were not therefore recorded in the books of the courts, while in other cases the plaintiffs' fees is returned at £205.687. There were 766 causes tried by jury out of 217,173 tried. The courts sat 8153 days. There were 14,393 executions paid without levy, and 30,832 enforced. Of 13,086 commitments ordered only 5693 were carried into effect.

The Inspector-General of the Customs of Baden has written to a Strasburg paper to state that it is not true, as has been stated, that great difficulties arose respecting the admission of M. Thiers' luggage at the Customs-house at Kehl. He, however, admits that some discussion took place respecting a piece of new flannel on which M. Thiers refused to pay duty, on the ground that it served as a belt; but, eventually, one of M. Thiers' friends paid the duty.

It appears from the official tables of the Board of Trade, issued on Wednesday by order of the House of Commons, that there has been an increase in the quantities of tea entered for home consumption. In the 11 months ended the 5th December, 1849, the quantity was 46,077,639 lb.; in 1850, 47,392,173 lb.; and in 1851, 49,564,193 lb.

The honour of having invented the omnibus is due to M. Baudry, a native of Nantes. The first omnibus that ever ran made its appearance in the streets of that city in the year 1826; and in the short space of time that has since intervened, the manufacture of that most convenient of popular vehicles has extended to all parts of the world. Even in the sandy environs of Cairo you are whisked to your hotel in an Oriental omnibus.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

HILARY TERM.—Last Monday, the lists of the arrears of the Common Law Courts for the ensuing Hilary Term, commencing on Monday next, were exhibited. The three courts number only (with the exception of Crown cases) 118, and principally consist of matters arising from new trials moved in Michaelmas Term, on cases heard on circuit. Henceforth rules obtained in one term will be heard in the following term, and not, as was formerly the case, in the Court of Queen's Bench, where matters stood over from 18 months to two years. In the Queen's Bench there are two special cases and demurrers, one for arrangement, and 13 for argument. There are seven enlarged rules, two in the new trial, and 27 for argument, making the whole number 52. In the Common Pleas the number is only 21, of which four are demurrers, two enlarged rules, 13 for new trial, and one matter standing for judgment. In the Court of Exchequer there are 45 matters. In the peremptory paper, 1; special cases for argument, 4; and demurrers for argument, 9. For judgment three matters stand; 28 rules for new trials. The lists present a very satisfactory appearance, and are of a different character from the lists from the Court of Chancery.

THE JUDGESHIP OF THE GLAMORGANSHIRE, BRECONSHIRE, AND RADNORSHIRE COUNTY COURTS.—The Lord Chancellor has appointed to this onerous and important office Thomas Falconer, Esq., barrister-at-law. The learned judge is a barrister of nearly twelve years' standing, having been called to the bar of the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn in February, 1840.

The sittings of the Central Criminal Court, and the January General Quarter Sessions, commenced last Monday; the calendar in the former contained the names of 63 prisoners for trial, and in the latter 71, of which 62 were for felony. In the Old Bailey, Henry Allen, who was committed by the Judge of the Westminster County Court for perjury in an action for debt in which Allen was defendant, was convicted. The policy of the law permitting parties to be witnesses in their own cause was discussed by the counsel for the prosecution and defence; but the Recorder in his summing up told the jury that it was no part of his or their duty to discuss the policy or impolicy of the law: if perjury were committed, it must be punished.

On Wednesday the trial of Richard Moss, one of the detective officers of the metropolitan police, and Henry Attwood, a constable, for wilful and corrupt perjury, in charging two youths, named Francatelli and Adam, with an attempt to pick pockets at Julien's Concerts, at Drury-lane Theatre, on the 10th of December, took place. The two young men were examined, and swore positively that there was no foundation for the evidence given by Moss and Attwood, before Mr. Hall, at Bow-street. Mr. Ballantine defended the prisoner Moss, who received the highest character: he had been twelve years in the police. Baron Platt put it to the jury whether the defendants had made a mistake as to the identity of the parties, and had sworn only what they had reason to suppose was the truth. The jury immediately acquitted the two prisoners. The judge, in answer to an appeal from Mr. Parry, the counsel for the prosecution, said there did not appear to be any foundation for the supposition that the young men were actuated by any guilty intention; and the jury also expressed their opinion that they were perfectly innocent of the charge brought against them.

The Middlesex Grand Jury, before it was discharged, handed in a presentment deprecating the manner in which tradesmen exposed their goods to tempt thieves, and suggesting that, in all cases where the property stolen did not exceed in value 20s., magistrates might dispose of them summarily. The learned Judge differed entirely from this suggestion; magistrates generally were averse to summary convictions, and no man ought to have absolute power over the person, character, or liberty of a fellow-subject.

WASTE OF TIME IN COUNTY COURTS.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

SIR,—When seventy cases are set down for hearing in a county court in one day, why are all the persons concerned summoned to attend at the earliest hour of the sitting of the court? By that plan scores of people are compelled to waste hours in unnecessary waiting.

Why not summon the first half on the list at nine, and the other half at two o'clock? If the first half of the cases should be over by one, so much the better. The judge would have an hour for recreation, and at two o'clock would return to his court with new vigour to a new audience and a new batch of cases. To the public the gain by such a plan would be very great.

At present a plaintiff or defendant has frequently to wait from ten till three or four o'clock; when, by following the suggestion I throw out, half that waste of time would, in 99 cases out of 100, be saved. Yours, &c., A PLAINTIFF.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—A commission has been issued from the Lord of the Treasury to Lord Seymour, Sir William Cubitt, and Dr. Lindley, to inquire and report on the cost of maintaining the building on its present site,—of its removal elsewhere, either wholly or in part,—and the purposes to which it may be advantageously applied. The evidence of the contractors and others qualified to advise on these subjects will be taken.

THE PRESENT TO LORD GRANVILLE.—A letter, of which the following is a translation, has been addressed by Lord Granville to M. Sallesdrouze de Lamorinière, returning thanks for the handsome present recently received by him from the late Commissioner for the Great Exhibition:—"Monsieur le Com-missaire-Général,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, in which you inform me, in such flattering terms, that, at the suggestion of the Minister of Commerce, it was decided by a decree of the President of the Republic that I should be presented with a *coffre* in ebony, ornamented with paintings on Sèvres porcelain, as a testimonial of the part taken by me at the Great Exhibition in London. It is with a degree of satisfaction, which I find it difficult to express, that I accept this magnificent present. I shall always regard it as a precious testimony that France has appreciated the desire which the Royal Commission had of justifying the confidence so nobly placed in it by the Government and the people of France, and I shall preserve this rich specimen of the progress of industrial arts among you as one of the most valuable memorials of an enterprise which has not a little contributed to tighten the bonds by which the two countries are united. I beg, Monsieur, that you will act as my interpreter towards the President of the Republic, and all those who have taken a share in doing me this honour, in expressing all my gratitude. I am, happy, Monsieur, that this communication has been made to me through you, who in all our frequent communications have shown, together with a great zeal for those whom you represented, a desire at the same time to facilitate the labours of the Royal Commission; and I avail myself of this opportunity to repeat the assurance of my most distinguished sentiments."

"GRANVILLE."

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS FOR THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The dividends on Consols and Annuities falling due this quarter are now in course of payment. The books for transfer will be opened on the 16th.

It is with regret that we announce the suspension of two old-established firms during the last week: Messrs. Bult, Sons, and Co., the well-known bullion-dealers; and Messrs. Seaward and Capel, the steam-engineers, of Limehouse.

The English market opened on Monday with more buoyancy, Consols quoting 97 to 98, being an improvement of 1/2 per cent. upon the closing price of Saturday. To the idle rumours of commercial failures proving groundless, and an advance in French prices, this reaction may be attributed. Consols closed at 97 1/2. Flatness prevailed at the opening on Tuesday, but the abundance of money influenced the market; and Consols, after touching 97 1/2, closed at the preceding day's quotation. The continued disasters at the Cape, with the appalling loss of the *Amazon*, caused a general feeling of dullness on Wednesday, Consols opening at 97 to 98, and quoting sellers for a short time at 97, the price ultimately quoting 97 to 98. Uncertainty regarding the Ministry, and the state of European politics generally, affected the market on Thursday. Consols, however, quoted 97 1/2. The purchase of the Government broker will amount to £744,753 during the ensuing quarter, which, added to the reinvestments and abundance of money, make it probable that the market will advance in the face of any ordinary changes or rumours. Exchequer Bills are in demand, at 58s. to 61s. p.; and India Bonds are worth 69s. to 72s. The closing official quotations of the week are—For Bank Stock, 216; Three and a Quarter per Cent. Reduced An., 97 1/2; Three per Cent. Consols, 97 1/2 ex div; New Three and a Quarter per Cent., 98 1/2; Long Anns., 1860, 7 1/2; Ditto, 30 years, 1860, 6 1/2; India Bonds, under £1000, 72; Consols for Opening, 97 1/2; Exchequer Bills, £1000, 1 1/2; Ditto, £500, 1 1/2; Ditto, Small, 1 1/2, 61.

Business was active on Monday in the low-priced Foreign Securities; Spanish Five per Cents and Sardinian were, however, most largely operated on. Spanish Five per Cents ranged from 22 1/2 to 23 1/2; Sardinian from 84 1/2 to 85 1/2. This buoyancy was supported on Tuesday, Mexican quoting 28 1/2; Sardinian, 90 1/2; Spanish Five per Cents, 23 1/2; and New Granada, ex. Dec. 1849 Coupon, 16 1/2 to 17. Less animation prevailed on Wednesday, but on Thursday the market again became active, and continued until the close of the week's trading, as we follow. List of closing prices will show:—Mexican Bonds, 28 1/2; Brazilian, 95s. Equador, 3 1/2; Granada, 17; Venezuela, 37; Spanish Five per Cents, 24 1/2; Ditto three per Cents, 42 1/2 ex div; New Three per Cents Deferred, 18 1/2 ex div; and Passives, 5 1/2; Portuguese Five per Cents, Converted, 34; Ditto, Four per Cents, 33; Russian, 11 1/2; Sardinian, 92; French Five per Cent. Rentes, 106 1/2; Ex-change, 2 1/2; Ditto, Three per Cent. Rentes, 7 1/2; Exchange, 25 1/2; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 60 ex div.; and the Four per Cents, 92.

The Railway Market has been better supplied this week, and prices, although not materially enhanced, have been better maintained. The Mining Market, being now authorised, will occupy attention for the future. During the past week a large business has been done. The following are the closing prices of both markets:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 12; Ambergate, Nottingham, Boston, and Eastern Junction, 5 1/2; Bristol and Exeter, 8 1/2; Caledonian, 16 1/2; East Anglian (£25 paid), 3 1/2; Eastern Counties, 6 1/2; Eastern Union, A, 4 1/2; Great Northern, 18 1/2; Ditto, Halves A, 6; Great Western, 8 1/2; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 6 1/2; Ditto, Fifth, 5 1/2; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 9 1/2; London and North-Western, 11 1/2; London and South-Western, 8 1/2; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 3 1/2; Midland, 5 1/2; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 2 1/2; Newport, Abergeenny, and Hereford, 2 1/2; North Staffordshire, 9 1/2; Shrewsbury and Chester, Halves, 6 1/2; South-Eastern, 2 1/2; South Wales, 30 1/2.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—Leeds and Bradford, 102 1/2; Northern and Eastern, 5 per Cent., 56; South Staffordshire, 7 1/2.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—East Anglian (£3 10s.), 2 1/2; Great Northern, 13 1/2; Ditto, Redeemable, 7; Shrewsbury and Chester, 15 1/2; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 15 1/2.

FOREIGN.—Boulogne and Amiens, 11 1/2; Central France, 21 1/2; Luxembourg (£10 paid), 3 1/2; Namur and Liege, 6 1/2; Northern of France, 20 1/2; Orleans and Bordeaux, 9; Paris and Rouen, 2 1/2; Paris and Strasbourg, 17; Rouen and Havre, 12; Sambre and Meuse, 4 1/2; Tours and Nantes, 10; Dutch Khenish, 23.

MIXED.—Aguia Frías, 1 1/2 pm.; Anglo-California, 1/2 pm.; Ave Maria, par; Nonvau Monde, 1/2 pm.; West Mariposa Shares, par; British Australian Gold Mining Company, 1/2 pm.; and the Australian Auriferous Ore Reduction Company are at a slight premium.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.—The Consol Market has been very steady to-day. The Three per Cents have marked 97 1/2 to 98; the Three per Cent. Reduced, 97 1/2; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 97 1/2 to 99. Bank Stock, 216; India Stock, 259; India Bonds, 68s. to 72s.; and Exchequer Bills, 58s. to 61s. prem. Mexican Bonds have marked 28 1/2, owing to an arrival of 80,000 dollars for the dividends. Other foreign securities are looking up. Railway Shares steady.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE (Friday).—During the present week the arrivals of English wheat up to our market coastwise have amounted to 2850 quarters. By land the receipts fresh up to-day were small; hence the show of samples of both red and white was limited, but of fair average quality. The attendance of millers was not large, yet the demand for all kinds of wheat from home produce ruled steady, at prices fully equal to those obtained on Monday. The imports of foreign wheat have been 7450 quarters, chiefly from the westward. Fine dry and sound qualities were held firm; at extreme quotations. In low and middling kinds very little was doing. Foreign cargoes were the turn higher. We were somewhat heavily supplied with foreign barley; but the show of English was moderate. Malt quality changed hands freely, at very full prices; grinding and distilling sorts supported previous rates. The sale for malt was tolerably firm, and last week's prices were well maintained. Upwards of 10,000 quarters of oats have arrived from Ireland; but the supply of both English and foreign was small. On the whole the trade was firm, at full quotations. Beans, peas, and Indian corn steady. Flour firm. The top price of English is 40s per 280 lb.

GRAIN.—English: wheat, 2850; barley, 3410; malt, 1920; oats, 2490; flour, 1320. Irish: oats, 1850. Foreign: wheat, 7450; barley, 7710; malt, —; oats, 6720; flour, 1400 sacks. **Wool.**—English:—Wool, Essex and Kent, red, 37s to 40s; ditto, white, 38s to 47s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 35s to 38s; ditto, white, 38s to 48s; rye, 27s to 35s; grinding barley, 25s to 28s; distilling ditto, 24s to 26s; malted ditto, 27s to 34s; Norfolk and Lincoln malt, 50s to 54s; brown ditto, 48s to 50s; Kingston and Ware, 53s to 55s; Chevalier, 57s to 58s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 17s to 20s; potato ditto, 19s to 22s; Xoughal and Cork, 16s to 21s; ditto, white, 19s to 22s; tick beans, new, 25s to 28s; ditto, old, 26s to 30s; grey peas, 28s to 31s; white, 28s to 31s; white, 28s to 30s; bolters, 29s to 32s per quarter. Town-made flour, 37s to 40s; Suffolk, 29s to 34s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 29s to 34s per 280 lb. Foreign: American flour, 19s to 22s per barrel. French, 27s to 32s per sack.

The Seed Market.—Linsed and cakes are in fair request, at full prices. In all other articles very little is doing. There are now on pass from the East Indies, the Black Sea, and from the Mediterranean, 150,000 quarters of linseed.

Linsed.—English, sowings, 50s to 37s per quarter. Coriander, 9s to 11s per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 7s to 8s; white ditto, 6s to 7s; and larrea, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per cwt. English rapeseed, new, £21 to £23 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, 18 10s to 19 0s; ditto, foreign, £6 5s to £5 5s per 1000. Rape cakes, £4 2s to £4 4s per ton. Canary, 37s to 38s per quarter.

The price of wheat bread in the metropolises are from 6d to 7d; of household ditto, 4d to 6d per 4 lb loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 37s 3d; barley, 26s 3d; oats, 1s 9d; rye, 26s 11s; beans, 28s 7d; peas, 28s 4d.

The Six Weeks Average.—Wheat, 37s 4d; barley, 26s 7d; oats, 18s 3d; rye, 27s 1d; beans, 28s 9d; peas, 28s 7d.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s; barley, 1s; oats, 1s; rye, 1s; beans, 1s; peas, 1s.

Tea.—For most kinds of black tea the demand has become somewhat more active, and good common sound congou cannot be purchased under 9d per lb. Green qualities command very little attention. The supply on offer is large.

Sugar.—The market has opened heavily. West India qualities have given way 6d; Bengal and Java, 5s to 1s per cwt. Fine yellow Barbadoes, 37s to 38s; middling, 36s to 37s; good to fine Demerara, 38s 4d; good to fine Bengali, 37s to 38s; and brown Java, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per cwt. Refined goods are quoted at 4s to 4s 6d for low to fine sugar.

Coffee.—About 1200 bags good old native Ceylon have changed hands, at 39s to 39s 6d per cwt. Most plantation kinds have moved off airy, at a rate.

Rice.—Good white Bengal is steady, at 10s to 10s 6d per cwt. Cleaned qualities are mostly held at full prices.

Provisions.—Irish butter is in moderate request, at fully previous rates. Carlow and Clonmel, 7s to 8s; Waterford, 6s to 7s; Cork, 7s; Limerick, 6s to 7s per cwt. Foreign qualities are a slow sale, but not cheaper. In English butter we have but moderate sales to report. Fine weekly Dorset, 9s to 9s 6d; middling ditto, 7s to 8s per cwt; Irish, 7s to 12s per dozen lb. Bacon moves off slowly, at 4s to 4s 6d for Waterford sizeable; and 40s for ham support late rates; but such kinds of provisions command very little attention.

Tallow.—The demand, both on the spot and for forward delivery, is very inactive, and prices are barely supported. New F.Y.C. is selling, at 36s 6d to 36s 9d per cwt. Town tallow 37s per cwt. net cash.

Oils.—This market still continues dull, but no further decline can be noticed in the quotations. Linsed, £1 6s 6d to £1 7s per cwt.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 15s to £3 17s 0d, clover ditto, £3 5s to £4 7s; and straw, £1 6s to £1 7s per load. Trade steady.

Hops (Friday).—Our market continues to be very moderately supplied with all new hops, for which the demand is steady, as very full prices. In old hops, exceedingly little is doing. Sussex pockets, 15 1/2s to 16 1/2s; Weald of Kent, ditto, £6 6s to £7; Mid and East Kent, ditto, £12 10s to 13s per cwt.

Coal (Friday).—Tandfield Moor, 13s 9d; West Wylam, 14s 9d; Walker, 14s 9d; Hilton, 17s 6d; Lambton, 17s; Russel's Hill, 17s; Caradoc, 16s 6d; Canslop, 16s 6d; Toss, 17s 3d per ton.

Smithfield (Friday).—Although our market to-day was very moderately supplied with beasts, both as to number and quality, the demand for all breeds, owing to the large arrivals of country-killed meat up to Newgate and Leadenhall, ruled exceedingly inactive, as early Monday's quotations show. The supply of cattle increased in the supply of sheep, hence the mutation trade was heavy, and the advance in the currencies was with difficulty supported. Prime small calves, sold at about stationary prices; otherwise the trade ruled dull. The inquiry for pigs was very active, at late rates. Allish cows were quoted at from 11 to 12 shillings, including their small calves.

Butter.—To sink the official—superior butter, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; second quality ditto, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; prime large oxen, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; prime cows, 3s 10d to 4s 0d; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s 0d to 3s 2d; second quality ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; prime coarse-wooled ditto, 4s 0d to 4s 2d; prime South Down, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; large coarse calves, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; prime small ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; neat small porkers, 3s 10d to 4s 0d; sucking calves, 18s to 22s; and quarter old store pigs, 10s to 21s each. Total supplies: beasts, 682; cows, 110; sheep, 4010; calves, 190; pigs, 300. Foreign: beasts, 140; sheep, 400; calves, 90; Scotch: beasts, 12.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—These markets were heavily supplied with both town and country-killed meat, in which a fair amount of business was transacted at barely stationary prices.

For sale by the carcasses.—Inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; middling ditto, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; prime large ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 2d; prime small ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; large pork, 2s 8d to 3s 0d; inferior mutation, 2s 8d to 3s 0d; middling ditto, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; prime ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; veal, 3s 0d to 4s 0d; small pork, 3s 10d to 4s 0d.

ROBERT HENKERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 2.

WAR-OFFICE, JAN. 2.

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